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ERNEST HENRY WILSON

IF I WERE TO MAKE A GARDEN

ARISTOCRATS OF THE TREES

CHINA—MOTHER OF GARDENS

ARISTOCRATS OF THE GARDEN

MORE ARISTOCRATS OF THE GARDEN

PLANT HUNTING

AMERICA'S GREATEST GARDEN

THE LILIES OF EASTERN ASIA

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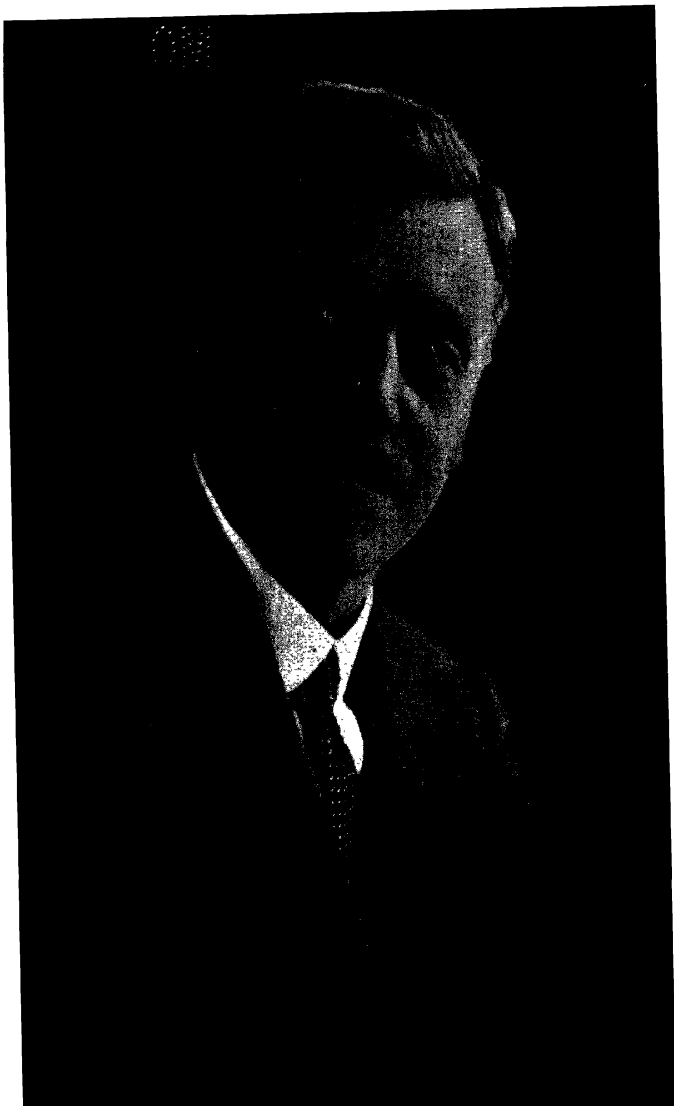
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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ERNEST HENRY WILSON

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ERNEST HENRY WILSON, D.Sc.

ERNEST H. WILSON  
PLANT HUNTER. *With*  
*a List of his Most Important*  
*Introductions and Where to Get Them*

---

By

EDWARD I. FARRINGTON  
*Secretary of the*  
MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



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HIGH REGARD, SINCERE ADMIRATION  
AND PROFOUND SYMPATHY PROMPT  
THE DEDICATION OF THIS LITTLE  
BOOK TO DR. WILSON'S DAUGHTER,  
MURIEL, NOW MRS. GEORGE L. SLATE









## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
Ernest Henry Wilson, D.Sc. . . . . <i>Frontispiece</i>	
Ernest Henry Wilson at the age of twenty-three	3
The Dove Tree ( <i>Davidia involucrata</i> ) which was the object of Dr. Wilson's first Chinese expedition . . . . .	9
<i>Meconopsis integrifolia</i> , the Yellow Poppywort of western China . . . . .	13
The Regal Lily, probably the most widely grown of Dr. Wilson's introductions . . .	17
The bleak-looking region in western China where Dr. Wilson discovered the Regal Lily .	21
The Tea Crab ( <i>Malus theifera</i> ) which Dr. Wilson considered one of the handsomest of his introductions . . . . .	25
A picture of Dr. Wilson made in China . . .	29
Descending rapids in the Yangtsze gorges . .	33
Hotel where Wilson lodged in western China. The plant hunter is standing at the right . .	41
Bamboo suspension bridge 200 feet long which Wilson photographed in western China . .	51

	PAGE
Kurume Azaleas as Dr. Wilson first saw them in the city of Kurume in Japan . . . . .	59
A specimen of the plant which Dr. Wilson liked to call "Her Royal Highness, the Princess Kurume" . . . . .	63
Dr. Wilson surrounded by head hunters and Japanese policemen in Formosa . . . . .	69
A small specimen of the <i>Taiwania</i> , the search for which carried Dr. Wilson to an isolated sec- tion of Formosa . . . . .	73
Among the mountains of Korea, where Wilson spent several months . . . . .	77
<i>Cypripedium tibeticum</i> , a Ladyslipper found on the borderland of Tibet, from which fact it takes its name . . . . .	83
Regal Lilies as they grew for the man who discovered them . . . . .	89
The Veitch Memorial Medal awarded Dr. Wilson in 1926 . . . . .	93
Dr. Wilson inspecting Azaleas in the greenhouse of the late Professor Charles S. Sargent . . . . .	97
A characteristic pose when Dr. Wilson was welcoming visitors to his garden . . . . .	101
<i>Lilium sargentiae</i> , one of Wilson's discoveries, is milk-white within, rose-purple to greenish without . . . . .	109

<i>Spiraea veitchi</i> , one of Wilson's early introductions from China . . . . .	115
The mountainous region in China where the Barberry which bears Dr. Wilson's name was discovered . . . . .	121
Salmon-colored fruits of <i>Berberis verna</i> , one of many Barberries introduced by Wilson . .	129
The beautiful <i>Clematis montana wilsoni</i> . .	135
The Chinese Dogwood ( <i>Cornus kousa chinensis</i> ) which Wilson valued very highly . . . .	139
<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i> , introduced from the heart of China, is one of the most charming shrubs ever brought to America . . . . .	149
<i>Lonicera nitida</i> , a Honeysuckle discovered by Wilson and now being used in Europe as a hedge plant . . . . .	153
The Chinese Woodbine ( <i>Lonicera tragophylla</i> ) which grows 20 feet high in a favorable location . . . . .	157
<i>Senecio clivorum</i> . . . . .	171
<i>Primula pulverulenta</i> . . . . .	171
Wilson's <i>Sorbaria arborea</i> , a strong-growing shrub best adapted to large estates . . . .	175
The George Robert White Medal of Honor awarded in 1915 . . . . .	193



## FOREWORD



PLANT hunting is a vocation which has not attracted many men. It involves too much danger, too many hardships, too much study and research, too much self-sacrifice, and too long absences from family, friends and the comforts of civilization. Yet each generation produces a few men willing to make the sacrifices, endure the hardships and engage in the study which plant hunting demands in return for the satisfaction found in enriching the gardens of civilization with plants and flowers previously known only to the untutored natives of primitive lands.

Certain names like those of Fortune, Henry, Farrer and Wilson occur immediately to men and women who are familiar with horticultural history. Ernest H. Wilson, although one of the later-day plant hunters, was one of the greatest of them all. Some will say that he stood at the head of the list, but it is too early to select the niche in horticulture's hall of



fame which he will ultimately fill. It is safe to say, however, that no plant hunter before him has achieved so great a degree of success in so many different lines. Wilson was a scientist, but he knew how to interpret his scientific work in popular terms. He became, therefore, a successful author, a lecturer of renown and a consultant whose opinions were constantly sought.

Wilson understood the value of his own work and probably appraised it as fairly as any man; yet he was modest about it. He disliked heroics. That is why so little is known about his adventures in the Far East. Even his books no more than suggest the dangers which he encountered and the narrow escapes from death which were his. He would sometimes refer to his experiences in a humorous way, describing at one time, for example, his attempt to traverse Korea in an old Ford car, which broke down in the middle of a river, compelling him and his companions to wade ashore. He told once of his difficulties in getting accustomed to Chinese food, especially certain chickens which have black bones. He had a fondness for birds'-nest pudding, and

he said that eggs which had been kept two years in Chinese fashion were none too bad.

He liked the name of "Chinese" Wilson, and he had a great liking for the Chinese people, often speaking of their honesty, their loyalty and their intelligence. He made many lasting friends in China, but, he did that wherever he went. Probably there was no man in all the world who could write a personal letter to so great a number of persons in so many corners of the globe. He kept in touch with China until the day of his death. A letter was received recently from the Chinese government asking Wilson to send back specimens of certain native Chinese plants, which were found by him, to be used in a national garden now being planned. These plants the Chinese themselves were unable to find at home.

Wilson's memory was almost uncanny. There are few gardens which he could enter without finding one of his own introductions, and wherever he saw a plant which he had noted in China, Japan, or any other country, he was able to give its life history. His familiarity with the trees and shrubs of the world was greater, probably, than that of any

other man who ever lived. His rare faculty of expressing scientific facts in everyday language and yet with precision and absolute accuracy made his books of exceptional value. He wrote several scientific books and many treatises which are invaluable for reference, but it is in his "popular" books that the public in general will find his knowledge preserved.

It was Wilson's constant aim to stimulate a greater appreciation of new plants among amateurs and to induce the growing of these plants by nurserymen. His many sided contacts, his passion for the improvement of gardens and his willingness to share his knowledge with the masses made him an exceptional figure in horticultural history.

It is a matter of the greatest regret that Wilson could not have lived to carry out all the work which he had planned for the years ahead and which would have added greatly to our knowledge of the Far East and its flora. He was almost instantly killed near Worcester, Mass., on October 15, 1930, when the automobile which he was driving skidded on a slippery road and dropped 40 feet over an embankment. Mrs. Wilson was killed with

her husband and there is left one daughter, Muriel P. (Mrs. George L.) Slate of Geneva, N. Y., from whose home Dr. and Mrs. Wilson were returning when the accident occurred.



# ERNEST H. WILSON

## *Plant Hunter*

### CHAPTER I

#### EARLY YEARS



IT would seem from his achievements that Ernest Henry Wilson must have been born for the task which fell to his lot to perform. Yet he was projected into it without any definite planning and early found himself launched on a career about which he had not even dreamed.

Wilson was born in Gloucestershire, England, on the fifteenth of February, 1876. After the usual schooling of English boys, he entered the nurseries of Messrs. Hewitt at Solihull, Warwickshire. In 1892 he went to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and, at the same time, studied botany in the Birmingham Technical School, where he won the Queen's prize. In 1897 he went to the Royal

Botanic Gardens at Kew, and after a short time definitely decided to become a teacher of botany, entering the Royal College of Science at South Kensington with that purpose in view.

It was at this point, however, that fate took a hand and sent the young man to the far ends of the earth instead of keeping him cribbed within the four walls of a school room. The fine old firm of James Veitch & Sons was seeking a man for a journey to inland China with the specific mission of locating the Dove Tree, *Davidia involucrata*, glowing accounts of which had been sent back by Dr. Henry.

In 1898 the late James H. Veitch, at that time managing director of the Veitch concern, asked the director of Kew Gardens to recommend a man for such an undertaking. Sir W. T. Thiselton-Dyer, then in charge of Kew Gardens, after some thought selected young Wilson, who accepted and, as a preliminary training, spent six months with George Harrow at the Coombe Wood nursery, a part of the Veitch establishment. It was at this nursery later that many of the seeds sent back by Wilson were planted, among them those



*Ernest Henry Wilson at the age of twenty-three*





of *Meconopsis integrifolia*, *Astilbe davidi*, *Rheum alexandrae*, *Senecio clivorum*, *Paeonia veitchi* and *Clematis montana rubens*, which were soon to enter commerce.

When he started on this trip the elder Veitch is reported to have said to him: "My boy, stick to the one thing you are after and do not spend time and money wandering about. Probably almost every worth while plant in China has now been introduced into Europe." This statement sounds ridiculous today, in view of the fact that Wilson himself subsequently introduced from China no less than 1,500 plants hitherto unknown. Yet it seemed reasonable enough then, because for years Robert Fortune and other botanists had sent an unbroken stream of garden material from China to the British Isles. That stream, however, had almost dried up and the conclusion was natural that the source of supply had been exhausted.

As it happened, though, most of these plants had come from gardens in the settled portions of the Chinese Empire. China was thought of in the west as a vast territory teeming with people. The tremendous expanse of mountain country, which lay beyond

the lowland settlements, had been almost overlooked. Yet it was to prove a treasure house of plant material. Henry and a few others had peered within it, and it was Henry who gave Wilson the key. It was Wilson, however, who opened the door and who laid hold upon the floral gems and plant jewels which it contained.

All this, however, was far in the future in 1899, when young Wilson was setting out on his first mission. It was a strange undertaking, this first mission, for a youth who had never been more than a few miles from his native soil. He elected to make the journey by way of America and had five days in Boston, establishing two life-long friendships—one with Professor Charles S. Sargent and one with Jackson Dawson. Most of his time in Boston was spent in the Arnold Arboretum and in the beautiful gardens of Professor Sargent in Brookline. The impression which he made on this occasion doubtless helped to bring about his appointment later as Professor Sargent's right hand man. Then the trip was resumed.

Across the continent the young man rode, thrilled with cowboy yarns and the daring deeds of Jesse James, yet with thoughts al-

ways leaping ahead to that older civilization toward which he was speeding. He passed his time by reading books on China and its people. He learned that from China had come many of the fruits now in common cultivation throughout the world—the orange, the peach, the apricot, many of the plums, the quince and the persimmon. He was to learn later, by observation, that the Chinese flora is the richest temperate flora in the world and in 11 years of travel in that country he was to collect some 65,000 specimens, sending seeds to Europe of over 1,500 distinct plants.

Reaching China late in the year, young Wilson found himself confronted with difficulties which well might have caused an older man to turn back. The lives of white men seemed unsafe anywhere beyond the seaboard towns. Guides were hard to get. Wilson was ignorant even of French, which was the foreign language most commonly used. Once he was in danger of being locked up as a spy.

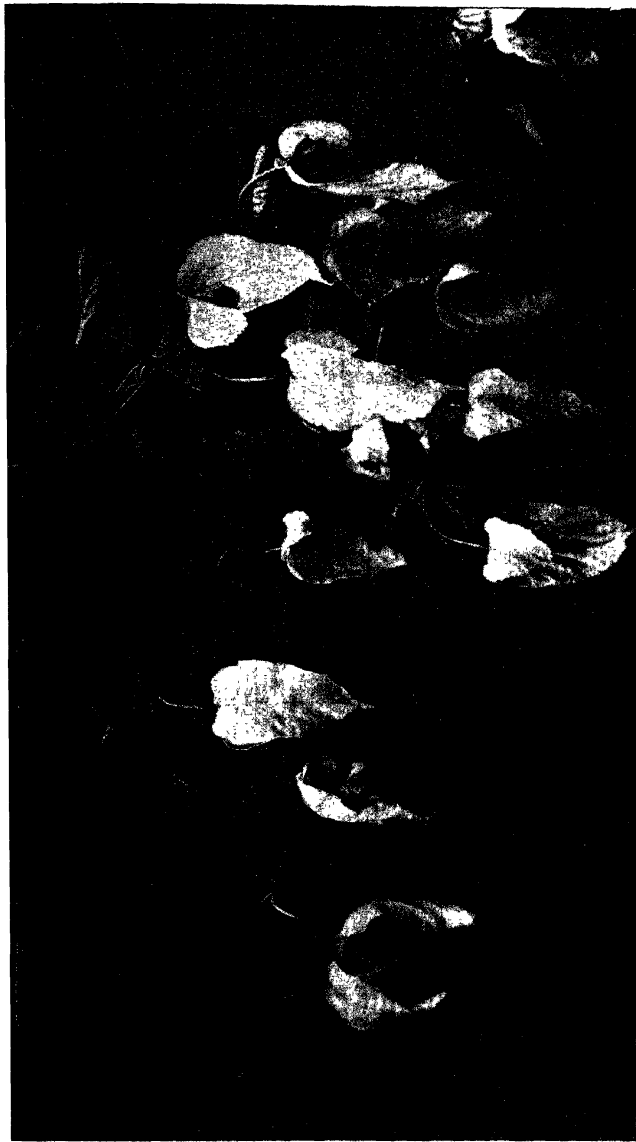
Finally, however, a caravan was organized and the start inland was made. First he made a difficult trip to Szemao, where he saw Dr. Henry and learned all he could from him about the location of the Dove Tree. Then he

went to Shanghai and up the Yangtsze River.

Young Wilson traveled simply, without any of the trappings which some explorers find necessary. He used a sedan chair, to be sure, but that was mostly a concession to Chinese customs. Any white man who travels in the more remote sections on foot loses caste. A white man in a sedan chair, on the contrary, is looked upon as a superior being. It is not really necessary, as Dr. Wilson once explained, to occupy the chair, but it must go along with the party as an indication of the traveler's rank and authority.

The rivers furnish the easiest routes to the interior of China and Dr. Wilson spent much of his time in native boats on the Yangtsze River. Calm and placid at its mouth, this river becomes a rapid and dangerous stream as it rushes through precipitous gorges back in the mountains. On one occasion Wilson's craft was sunk and he lost his camera, with hundreds of negatives which he had spent months of toil to obtain.

One adventure after another marked this first visit to China, but at last the spot was reached where Henry had reported the Dove Tree. The natives were asked about it. "Could



*The Dove Tree (Davidia involucreta) which was the object of Dr. Wilson's first Chinese expedition*



they show it to him?" To be sure they could. Then they pointed to a stump and afterwards to a rude cabin which had just been erected. The stump was that of the Dove Tree and the house was the Dove Tree's trunk, but in a form which was obviously of no use to a botanist.

This was a bitter disappointment, but a few weeks later the young explorer came unexpectedly upon a few more Dove Trees in flower. They were tall trees, however, and the blossoms were at the top. To photograph them it was necessary to climb another tree to the height of almost 50 feet, the camera being hauled up by a rope, and to make a picture from that point at the eminent risk of a long tumble. Later young Wilson collected seeds of the Dove Tree, or *Davidia*, and sent them back to England, where enough of them eventually germinated to provide stock for propagation. The Dove Tree is now widely distributed.

In 1902 Wilson returned to England, and two months afterwards he married Helen Ganderton, who accompanied him on several of his later trips and who went to her death with her husband by her side.



♦

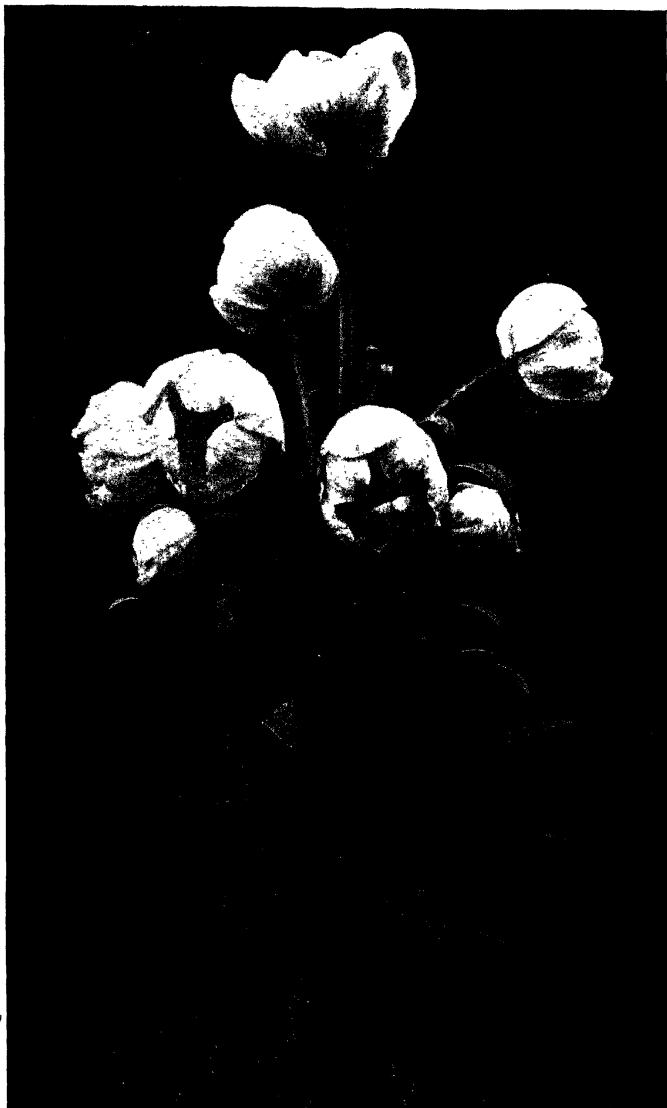
## CHAPTER II

### IN THE HEART OF CHINA



SO successful was young Wilson on his first trip that the Veitches sent him to China again in 1903, this time in search of a wonderful yellow Poppywort, called *Meconopsis integrifolia*. This was a more extensive trip than the one which preceded it, covering two and a half years and carrying the traveler 2,000 miles inland. On this expedition Wilson, young as he was, proved himself a diplomat and a student of human nature. As a result, he suffered comparatively little annoyance from the natives, but occasionally had difficulty in proving that he was merely an inoffensive plant hunter.

The hunt for the yellow Poppywort took Wilson through the Ming River to the borderland of Tibet, high up in the mountains, where a white man was a curiosity and where travel was slow, tedious and dangerous. Many of Wilson's observations among the natives



*Meconopsis integrifolia*, the Yellow Poppywort of western China



of Tibet have been recorded in his book called "Plant Hunting."

Dr. Wilson was extremely reticent about his adventures and especially those when his life was in peril, but he did not hesitate to tell about the discomforts of the so-called hotels and inns in this wild region, where the animals occupied the same shelter, where it was necessary to wade through many inches of filth to reach the door, and where vermin were an incessant torment. More will be written about this later.

This expedition yielded a vast amount of information, a great number of photographs, and eventually the yellow Poppywort itself, growing far up on the sides of the cliffs—the most gorgeous alpine in all the world, according to Dr. Wilson's belief. Unfortunately, it does not thrive well in America, although some very good specimens have been grown at Bar Harbor, Maine.

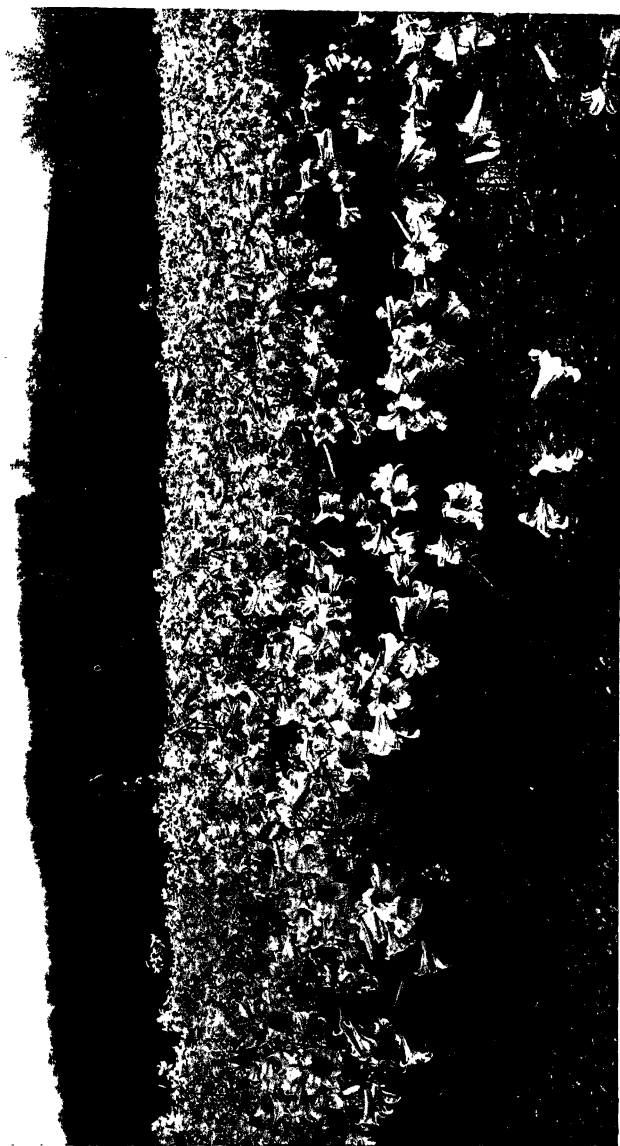
After Wilson returned from his second expedition in March, 1905, he became a botanical assistant at the Imperial Institute in London. He remained there for only a few months, however, as Professor Sargent was

asking him to make a third trip to China, this time in behalf of the Arnold Arboretum.

Wilson left England in December, spent a short time at the Arboretum, and in January, 1907, started for China by way of San Francisco. This trip was made especially to locate trees and shrubs of value to the gardens of America and much of the time was spent in western Hupeh. It was on this trip that *Pinus bungeana* was discovered growing wild.

This was a fruitful expedition and at its close Wilson sailed for England, where he spent the summer of 1909, returning to the Arnold Arboretum in September. He had seen the Regal Lily on this expedition but had not collected it. Moreover, many of the conifers which he had discovered had not borne seed in 1908.

／ Accordingly, a fourth Chinese expedition was decided upon, in 1910, this also under the auspices of the Arnold Arboretum, as Mr. Wilson was now definitely connected with that famous institution. Once again the young explorer traveled into the high mountains of western China, where in the Hupeh section were found many of the finest of the Chinese introductions—among them the Regal Lily



*The Regal Lily, probably the most widely grown of Dr. Wilson's introductions*



itself, Sargent's Lily, and the Wilmott Lily—all three of which Dr. Wilson discovered. In this section also grew Henry's Lily, which Dr. Wilson was instrumental in introducing to America. Here, too, Mrs. Thayer's Lily, properly *Lilium davidi*, was rediscovered.

This trip, however, came near bringing the plant hunter's work to an untimely end. An avalanche, sweeping down a mountain, carried his sedan chair hundreds of feet to the river below, but he himself escaped by leaping out. He tried to gain the shelter of the cliff but a rock broke his leg. Then a mule team came pattering down the winding trail, 40 mules in all, one in front of the other. All 40 mules stepped over him as he lay in the road but not a hoof touched him, although, as he said afterward, every hoof looked as big as a plate.

The plant hunter's camera had gone with his sedan chair but the tripod remained. The legs of the tripod were broken off and made into splints with which his leg was bound up. Then he was carried down the mountain side and eventually reached a medical missionary's hut. The leg healed badly and for a time there was threat of its removal. Gradually, however, the injured man became able to walk



with crutches and eventually reached Boston, where he spent several weeks in a hospital making a final recovery. He was left with a leg slightly shorter than the other but a leg which carried him for many thousands of miles on later journeys.

In spite of that mishap, hundreds of the Regal Lily bulbs were brought to America, having been dug and packed by Dr. Wilson's native assistants. These assistants, by the way, were always held in deep regard by Dr. Wilson, who often spoke about their loyalty and skill. The introduction of new plants involves an immense amount of labor and patient waiting. After a plant has been seen in flower, the plant hunter must wait for it to make seeds. These seeds must be gathered with care when fully ripe, and packed so that they will travel for thousands of miles without heating. Without reliable native helpers a plant hunter in China is helpless.

The bulbs of the Regal Lily were made into packs and carried on men's backs to the river and the waiting boats. Probably the Regal Lily is the most famous and the most popular of all Wilson's introductions. Millions of these Lilies are now being grown in



*The bleak-looking region in western China where Dr. Wilson discovered the Regal Lily*



this country and in Europe, and Dr. Wilson's name would go down in history if his fame rested on this introduction alone. 776

Although Wilson had an eye out for herbaceous plants and introduced some excellent perennials like *Thalictrum dipterocarpum* and *Artemisia lactiflora*, his keenest interest was in shrubs and trees. Probably the best known of the shrubs which he introduced to civilization is a fine form of the now common Buddleia, often called the Butterfly Bush, although Dr. Wilson himself did not like that name, preferring Summer Lilac. Perhaps his favorite among his pets, as he called the plants he discovered, was *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, which is a sort of glorified weigela, and to which the discoverer gave the common name of Beauty Bush. It has seemed strange to some readers that no mention of this shrub is made in its discoverer's early writings. The explanation is that he himself did not see it in flower until long after its introduction. He was attracted to the plant by the fact that it was producing seed freely. He gathered the seed on the chance that it might be worth the trouble and only after this seed had made

flowering plants in America did he reap his reward in loveliness.

This shrub has a close rival in his affections, however, in *Malus theifera*, or the Tea Crab, a lovely plant now in general cultivation, which received its name from the fact that the Chinese often use its leaves for making a beverage. Several Cotoneasters, a number of Honeysuckles, *Clematis montana rubens*, and *Neillia sinensis* are among the other Chinese shrubs of great value and now in cultivation which owe their presence in American and European gardens to Dr. Wilson's efforts. One of the most useful trees introduced by Dr. Wilson is *Cornus kousa chinensis*, the Chinese Dogwood, which blossoms a month later than our native Dogwood but which it much resembles.

Wilson was most reserved even in his literary work, but occasionally his passionate love of Nature burst forth in a spontaneous paragraph. Thus, in 1923, we find him writing as follows:

"Sometimes friends have said 'you must have endured much hardship wandering in out-of-the-way corners of the earth.' I have. But such count for nothing since I have lived



*The Tea Crab (*Malus theifera*) which Dr. Wilson considered one of the handsomest of his introductions*



in Nature's boundless halls and drunk deeply of her pleasures. To wander through a tropical or temperate forest with tree trunks more stately than a gothic column, beneath a canopy of foliage more lovely in its varied forms than the roof of any building fashioned by man, the welcome cool, the music of the babbling brook, the smell of Mother Earth, and the mixed odors of a myriad of flowers—where does hardship figure when the reward is such?"



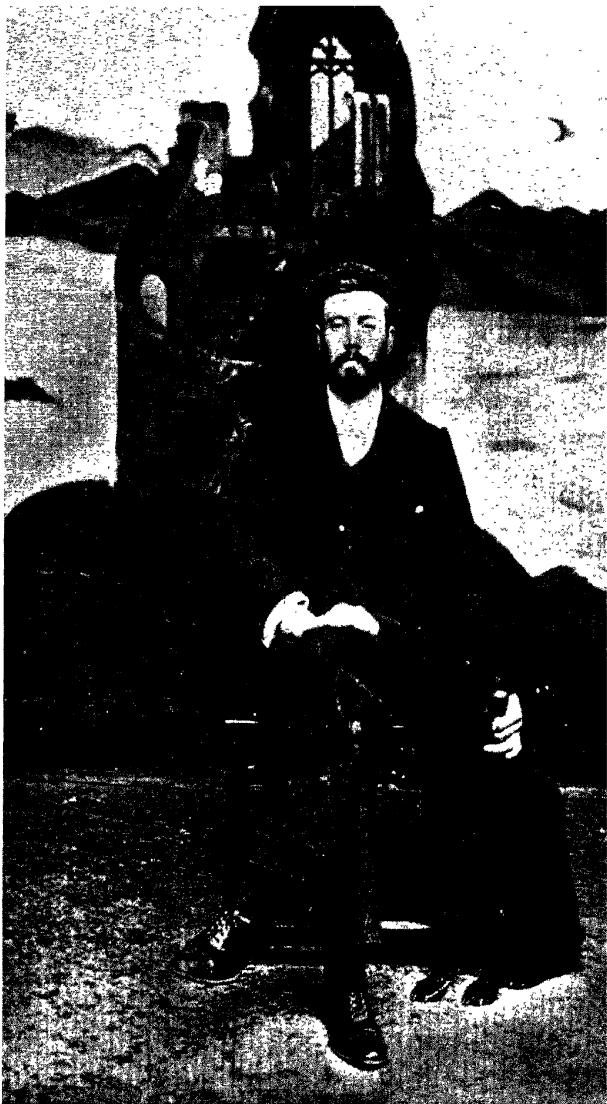
### CHAPTER III

## WHERE WHITE MEN HAD NEVER TROD



CHINA covers a vast amount of territory. Roughly speaking it embraces a tract of country almost square, 20 degrees of longitude by 20 degrees of latitude. Its southern part reaches into the tropics while the northern part has the climate of Siberia. It is split up into mountain ranges, fertile valleys and plains, drained by a network of rivers—the Yangtsze and the Yellow Rivers being among the largest in the world. The lower levels had been explored by many white men long before Wilson's first visit to China and many plants had been sent to European gardens from the gardens of civilized China.

The upper regions of country, however, had been neglected for the most part, and it was in the central and western part that most of Wilson's work was done. He was the first white man to set foot in some of the more



*A picture of Dr. Wilson made in China*



remote sections to which he piloted his little caravan in search of plant material and probably some of these sections would remain unexplored were it not for the Yangtsze River, which offers an opportunity of reaching the inland by a direct if not a comfortable route.

In various lectures given before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston, Wilson related some of the geographical difficulties which he had to overcome. This chapter is based on these lectures and on certain notes from his diary.

The Yangtsze River has its source in the highlands of central Asia and after pursuing a tortuous course due south through wild and unknown territory for 1,000 miles suddenly turns east and flows right through the heart of China for a distance of 2,000 miles, emptying itself into the Yellow Sea just north of Shanghai. The Yangtsze is navigable for steamers as far as Ichang, 1,000 miles from its mouth, and a huge fleet of merchant steamers ply constantly on its waters. The journey, however, is dull and uninteresting, being through one vast alluvial plain. Here and there a few hills crop out and at Kiukiang the Lushan Mountains approach the river, mak-

ing a break in the monotony. As Ichang is approached the country begins to get broken up and by the time the town is reached the traveler is fairly among the mountains.

These mountain ranges vary in central China from the low foot hills around Ichang to peaks 8,000 to 10,000 feet high, the latter themselves being spurs from the gigantic snow-clad ranges of the Chino-Tibetan borderland. In such a mountainous country, affording such altitudinal extremes and favored with a copious rainfall, a rich and varied flora is to be expected. Few, however, realize the enormous richness of the Chinese flora. The most competent authorities estimate it as containing no fewer than 15,000 species, half of which are peculiar to the country. These figures speak for themselves and yet fail to give a truly adequate idea of the profusion of flowers. The wild mountain fastnesses of central and western China are simply a botanical paradise, with trees, shrubs, and herbs massed together in bewildering, chaotic confusion.

One might assume that traveling by boat would be a simple matter, requiring but little exertion on the part of the traveler. This is



*Descending Rapids in the Yangtze gorges*



not true when the traveling is done on the upper Yangtze. The boats are crude, although well adapted to their purpose. Wilson some times said that the criticisms leveled at the Chinese boats because of their primitive appearance are not justified. They are ingeniously constructed and serve their purpose better than almost any other craft that could have been devised. The boats are commonly called houseboats by foreigners, probably because they suggest the houseboats seen at home.

Traveling up the river is painfully slow, the journey from Ichang to Chungking, about 400 miles, requiring a month on the average. As soon as Ichang has been passed, the world-famous Yangtze gorges appear, extending west for about 100 miles and offering scenery which Wilson said was as sublime and awe inspiring as that to be found anywhere in the world. The cliffs are of limestone and often times make a sheer drop of 1,000 feet or more. The river at the bottom of these gorges is narrowed to less than half its usual width and rises in spring from 60 feet to 120 feet.

Between Ichang and Chungking the Chinese Gazetteer enumerates 1,000 rapids and



dangerous rocks. Wilson made the following comment: "It is not possible to exaggerate the sublimity and risks of navigation on the upper Yangtze. Of the vast fleet of boats which navigate its perilous waters, 500 on an average are annually wrecked and one-third of the cargo transported is damaged by water." Wilson himself experienced one such wreck, with heavy loss.

Of course these remote sections see but little passing, even on the part of natives. The country is rugged and ill-adapted to habitations of any kind. Wilson said in one of his lectures that central and western China had practically no pasture-land and few arteries of travel. The main road in these sections is only six to eight feet wide and usually wholly out of repair. An ordinary by-road is nothing more than a sheep-track. Naturally, nothing fitted with wheels could move in these parts. It is difficult to get along even with a sedan-chair and everything portable has to be transported on men's backs.

There is a great difference in temperature in the Yangtze valley. Up to 2,000 feet of latitude the climate is warm-temperate. Here rice, cotton, sugar, and tobacco can be grown.

The next 2,000 feet the climate begins to get colder and from 4,000 to 9,000 feet a cool temperate climate is found. It was at this lofty elevation that Wilson located most of the beautiful plants contributed to the gardens of Europe and America.

In this zone, he relates, an astonishing variety of flowering trees and shrubs were to be found—65 species of *Clematis*, 60 species of *Honeysuckle*, 100 species of *Rubus*, 35 species of *Vitis*, 40 species of *Barberry* and 40 more of *Viburnums*, with at least 110 species of *Senecio*.

*Rhododendrons* are a special feature, Wilson reported, of western China, with no fewer than 150 different kinds. He himself collected 80 species and introduced about 50 different *Rhododendrons* to the Arnold Arboretum and elsewhere, 25 per cent of them being heretofore undescribed species. It was way up at the 8,000-foot level that they were found in greatest abundance, and they appeared with more or less freedom up to the 15,000-foot level. Some which Wilson discovered are distinctly alpine plants, being only a few inches high; others make trees up to 40 feet. In color they range from pure white through clear

yellow to the deepest shades of scarlet and crimson. Wilson saw them at a time when they turned the mountains into a mass of color, miles and miles of cliff-side being aglow with plants in full flower. Several of the Rhododendrons which Wilson introduced are thriving in England and are common in gardens there, giving much better results than in America.

Wilson's ascent of these western mountains carried him up 16,000 feet into the alpine zone, where he found a wealth of herbs, their variety being well-nigh infinite and the intensity of their colors a striking feature. Unfortunately, the most interesting of the plants found there cannot be introduced into cultivation because they are semi-parasitic in their nature. They bear the name of *Pedicularis*, with over 100 species, and occur in countless thousands, supplying all the colors save blue and purple. *Gentianas* are almost as common, having 90 species. They are social plants and on sunny days the ground for miles is often nothing but a carpet of intense blue.

Wilson often spoke with enthusiasm of the Primroses which he found in the high altitude of western China. Probably this was because

the Primrose was one of his favorite flowers. The genus has 90 species in China, four-fifths of them in the west. Wilson said that they often carpet the ground over immense tracts of country, sometimes among bare rocks or on the sides of streams. He found *Primula sinensis* as common along the streamlets and ponds as is the Cowslip in English meadows.

Wilson and his caravan climbed as high as any plants were to be found. The limit of vegetation was about 16,500 feet, a tiny species of *Primula* and *Meconopsis racemosa* being the last to give out. Above this altitude is a region of perpetual snows.

Curiously enough, the river valleys in western China are warm—at least much warmer than their altitude warrants. They may be 4,000 up to 10,000 feet high and yet grow the plants of the lowlands. It was in these valleys that Wilson found the Lilies upon which much of his popular fame as a plant hunter rests. These warm high valleys were filled with Lilies.

Wilson once spoke of his surprise when he found in the valley of the Tung River an American plant, the Prickly Pear (*Opuntia dillenii*)—not a few specimens, but thousands

of plants which had become naturalized and covered the river banks for many miles. Associated with them was a Mimosa-like legume. "I rubbed my eyes," said Wilson, "and wondered if I had not suddenly been transported to Texas or New Mexico. With the flora before me I could hardly tell whether I was in China or America."

As a matter of fact there is a strange affinity between the flora of China and America. On Wilson's last journey he discovered for the first time in history a species of *Symphoricarpos* outside of the American continent. The eastern Asia form of *Diphylleia cymosa* is almost identical with the form found in the Alleghany Mountains. Wilson's explanation of this affinity was that in pre-glacial times there was complete land connection between Asia and America, and that an exchange of plants took place in northern latitudes.

Wilson made his first three trips into the heart of China largely on the rivers, but on his fourth expedition he was obliged to take an overland route in order to enter Szechuan by way of northwestern Hupeh and then strike due west to Chengtu. This was entirely unknown country. No one had ever before



*Hotel where Wilson lodged in western China. The plant hunter is standing at the right*



attempted the journey in its entirety. The distance was about 700 miles over the roughest mountain country that could be imagined. Eight weeks were required to cover this comparatively short distance. This part of Hupeh is one of the wildest and least known parts of China. "It is simply," as Wilson describes it, "one vast sea of mountains with range upon range of razor-backed ridges, separated by narrow chasms down which mountain torrents roar." Yet this inaccessible country supports a flora of surpassing beauty, the noise of the falling waters alone breaking the silence of the forest depths.

In one of his lectures in Horticultural Hall Wilson described a night in a Chinese village at a height of 5,800 feet. "On three sides stupendous cliffs reared themselves. The fourth was a gap with a village some 4,000 feet below. The rocks, chiefly limestone, showed white, gray, and reddish, adding a bizarre appearance to the cliff ridges. A thunderstorm was brewing and the light rapidly failing rendered photography impossible, but no photograph could convey any adequate idea of the savage grandeur of the whole scene; it was indeed sufficient to awe and terrorize one.



Such scenes sink deep into the soul and a stillness creeps over one leaving an indelible impression which time cannot efface. Angry rain clouds soon blotted out the scene and the storm burst. The roof of our hovel was like a sieve and the mud floor quickly became reduced to a quagmire, and so passed the long night."

On this journey Wilson penetrated the wild and little known country which forms the hinter-land between China proper and the Tibetan plateau. The following extracts from his diary may be of interest.

"I was under the impression that I had long ago reached bedrock in the matter of bad roads; today I have been disillusioned. The road absolutely defies description. We have done nothing all day but scramble over rocks, circumvent landslips, wade through streams, dodge waterfalls, and flounder through mud. To end matters, we fetch up for the night at the most miserable of hovels, and as our loads fail to arrive we have to pass the night supperless, with a bare plank for a bed. Luckily I had one blanket with me and by wadding some paper for a pillow soon got to sleep. About midnight I was awakened by a rain-

storm to find myself drenched through. There was no dry spot in the hovel and we passed the night huddled together around the embers of a small fire. Dawn ultimately broke and the rain finally ceased, to be followed by welcome, life-sustaining sunshine."

Wilson's success in handling the natives, often under difficult situations, in his years of travel through remote and isolated sections of China has often been a subject of comment. This was apparent even before his fame had become established, for we find the following note in "Hortus Veitchii," a history of the rise and development of the Veitch Nurseries written by James H. Veitch himself in 1906.

"Wilson was unusually sympathetic to the Chinese temperament, always prepared to yield a point, but firm when necessary, a contrast to his predecessor, Charles Maries, who, when in the Ichang region of the Yangtze Valley in 1879, could have sent many plants, subsequently found by Wilson, and which even at that time were undeniably accessible. Maries was *difficile*; and the natives, naturally resenting this, destroyed the collection, and he returned to the coast reporting the people hostile."

Wilson made some firm friendships among the Chinese and when possible employed the same men for one journey after another. He was careful to have a reliable interpreter and never made an attempt to learn the language.

## CHAPTER IV

## DAYS OF DANGER



R. WILSON traveled much of the time when in China on rivers, especially when making his long journeys inland. This was often a dangerous trip, although the explorer had the greatest respect for the skill of the native boatmen and in one of his books wrote his appreciation of their ability to handle the curious Chinese craft with a minimum number of casualties. China is traversed by rivers and when Wilson was not sailing on them he was often crossing one of the mountain streams to be found throughout western China, frequently at the bottom of deep gorges with sheer precipitous sides. It is not strange, therefore, that Wilson had much to say about boats and about bridges.

The latter seem to have given him special concern, perhaps because on one or two occasions he very narrowly escaped the loss of his life when crossing a ramshackle bridge of

bamboo or logs. Bridges as we know them are not found in western China and, in addition to getting himself safely over the treacherous makeshifts of the Chinese, Wilson had to make sure of the safety of his men, some 25 or 30 of them, and of his dog, which was his constant companion.

Then there was the sedan chair to be transported, for Wilson never went anywhere without this chair, not so much because he was fond of the mode of travel which it provided as because it established his leadership and authority. Oftentimes he had a chair, too, for his head boy, but when it came to traversing the mountain trails and crossing the mountain streams the chairs had to be knocked down and transported piecemeal, which added to the burden of the journey without lessening the fatigue of the director.

In addition there were supplies, of course, although Wilson and his little company lived off the land much of the time, going hungry for days when villages were far apart or their rations low; finally, there was the great camera which Wilson carried on all his trips and a large number of glass plates.

Photography was not so much a hobby

with Wilson as an aid to his work. He photographed almost everything which he thought would be of interest to the botanists of Europe and America, and as a result collected a set of photographs which cannot be duplicated anywhere in the world and which have been filed in the Arnold Arboretum, where they are serving a highly useful purpose. Incidentally, Wilson was an unusually good photographer, at least for an amateur, and many of his pictures are interesting apart from their horticultural or botanical value. They greatly enhance the value of his books.

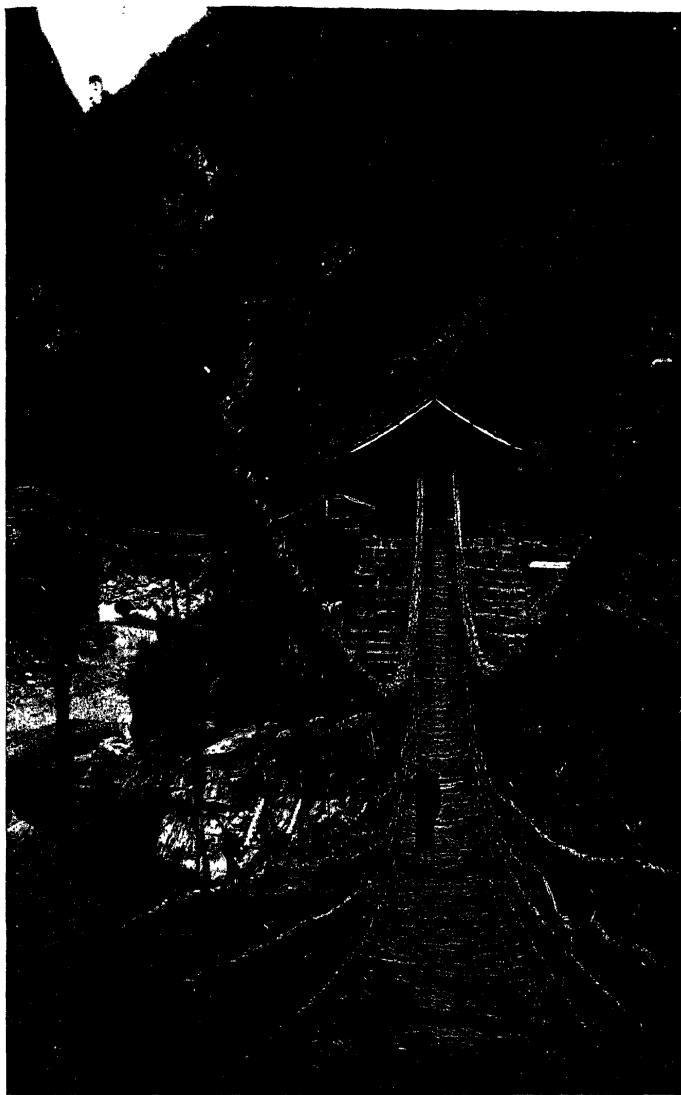
All this dunnage added not a little to the difficulties of travel in sections where roads were little more than cart paths and bridges insecure and treacherous. Perhaps that was one of the reasons mention is made so often of the mountain streams and the difficulties encountered in crossing them. The older roads of China follow the course of streams pretty closely, although there are many by-paths which Wilson used frequently, finding it possible by this means to penetrate to many of the most remote but most interesting parts of central and western China. It was on roads of

this kind that bridges of the crudest nature were found.

In his trip to northwestern Szechuan, Wilson and his men were forced to cross a small torrent on logs placed there by native lumbermen. These logs were wet and slippery. As Wilson placed his foot on one of them he began to slide and avoided a bad accident only by jumping into the rock-strewn stream.

Many times cable or rope bridges were found, especially near the Chino-Tibetan borderland. These bridges consist of a bamboo hawser thrown across a stream, usually from a higher to a lower point. This hawser may be from 18 inches to a foot thick and because of its weight naturally sags in the middle, at least if the river is at all wide.

Roughly made though they be, these structures are real bridges, but sometimes a very different method of crossing a mountain torrent or a chasm is encountered. A single cable is stretched across the river and the traveler slides across in a saddle made of stout hempen rope which is fastened under and around the legs. This saddle is attached to a wood runner over the top of the cable. When he is ready to start, the traveler throws one arm over the



*Bamboo suspension bridge 200 feet long which Wilson photographed in western China*





runner, springs off and slides down the inclining cable with ever-increasing speed. If the dip is not too great the impetus carries him up the opposite side to the shore. It sometimes happens, though, that there is insufficient momentum, and the remaining distance must be traversed by hauling hand over hand on the hawser.

Whenever Wilson found it necessary to want to use this primitive method, a long wait was necessary in order to haul across the dunnage which the caravan required. It is easy to believe that Wilson spent many anxious hours when watching the work of conveying precious seeds and plants across a gorge to the bottom of which the accumulation of months would be precipitated if a rope should break.

Drawing on his diary Wilson writes about a remarkable bridge crossing an arm of the Min River, as follows:

“This remarkable structure is about 250 yards long, nine feet wide, built entirely of bamboo cables resting on seven supports fixed equidistant in the bed of the stream, the central one only being of stone. The floor of the bridge rests across ten bamboo cables, each 21 inches in circumference, made of bamboo

culms, split and twisted together; five similar cables on each side form the rails. The cables are all fastened to huge capstans, embedded in masonry, which are revolved by means of spars and keep the cables taut. The floor of the bridge is of planking held down by a bamboo rope on either side. Lateral strands of bamboo keep the various cables in place, and wooden pegs driven through poles of hard wood assist in keeping the floor of the bridge in position. Not a single nail or piece of iron is used in the whole structure. Every year the cables supporting the floor of the bridge are replaced by new ones, they themselves replacing the rails. This bridge is very picturesque in appearance, and a most ingenious engineering feat."

Mention has been made before of Mr. Wilson's dogs. The explorer had a great fondness for these animals, one of which was to be found with him most of the time. Even in his later years, when able to live a domestic life, a dog was a member of the household. Sometimes, though, a dog in western China becomes a decided liability, especially in the crossing of rivers under difficult circumstances. Wilson relates an experience in Hsin-kai-tsze,

where the road crossed a log bridge, which was being repaired at the time of his visit, with only two uneven logs in position. A thin rope was stretched to serve as a hand-rail on one side. The waters below were deep and turbulent and to fall off meant certain death. All the men got over safely, but the dog was a problem, for he objected to the method of passage. Finally, he was lashed firmly to a flat board and carried across on a man's back, Wilson walking behind. The dog got half loose just as the man carrying him reached the shore.

Not seldom the highway was almost as unsafe and as uncomfortable to use as the bridges. Once, for example, near the borderland of Tibet, Wilson's caravan reached a point where a large portion of the road was under water, obliterated by landslides or washed away by the current. Having no liking for wet feet, Wilson undertook to traverse the under-water portions of the road on the back of a native soldier who was accompanying the caravan, but finally the soldier stumbled and gave him a ducking. After that, being already thoroughly wet, he decided that he might as well wade the rest of the way.

Wilson was not given to describing dangers or magnifying difficulties but evidently was unusually impressed in this particular instance for he writes in "China—Mother of Gardens": "The river was a roaring torrent throughout the whole day's journey, in places really awesome to behold, dashing itself headlong over enormous boulders, or boiling as if forced by some malignant spirit. In many places our path actually overhung this torrent, and one false step meant death."

Wilson has many pleasant things to say about the East, but they do not include the inns or other caravansaries of western China. In his books he makes frequent references to the vile quarters in which he and his men were obliged to spend their nights. In conversation, too, in later years he often spoke of the filthy accommodations afforded travelers in that primitive land, especially when he could compare them with the luxurious modern hotels of American cities, which he loved to visit. Many times there were only mud floors, which were so damp that vegetation soon began to spring up in the corners and under the bunks. Sometimes skins served as the only mattresses.

It was not unusual to find a hotel with no outlet for smoke save a door and with no windows. A candle was necessary even at midday to avoid falling over what little furniture the main room contained. It was in a hotel of this sort in northwestern Szechuan that Wilson was snowed under for three consecutive days. The location was a mile or so above the tree line, flanked on one side by stark, crumbling rocks and on the other by the snows of the Hsueh-po-ting. And yet it was from this locality that Wilson introduced the lovely *Meconopsis punicea* in 1903, this Poppywort being the commonest herb at an elevation of almost 14,000 feet.

## CHAPTER V

INTRODUCING THE KURUME  
AZALEA

PROFESSOR SARGENT had spent some months in Japan a few years before this time and had introduced several new plants, among them *Azalea kaempferi*. He believed that the island offered still further opportunities for plant hunting and sent Wilson there in 1914. Wilson took his wife and his daughter, Muriel, with him on this trip. Special attention was given Japanese Cherries, which later resulted in a book about them.

Wilson was back in the Arnold Arboretum in 1915 getting his Japanese collections arranged and preparing his monumental book "Plantae Wilsonianae" in co-operation with Alfred Rehder of the Arnold Arboretum staff, a man of exceptional botanical attainments and Wilson's close associate for many years.

It was on this expedition that Wilson



*Kurume Azaleas as Dr. Wilson first saw them in the city of Kurume in Japan*





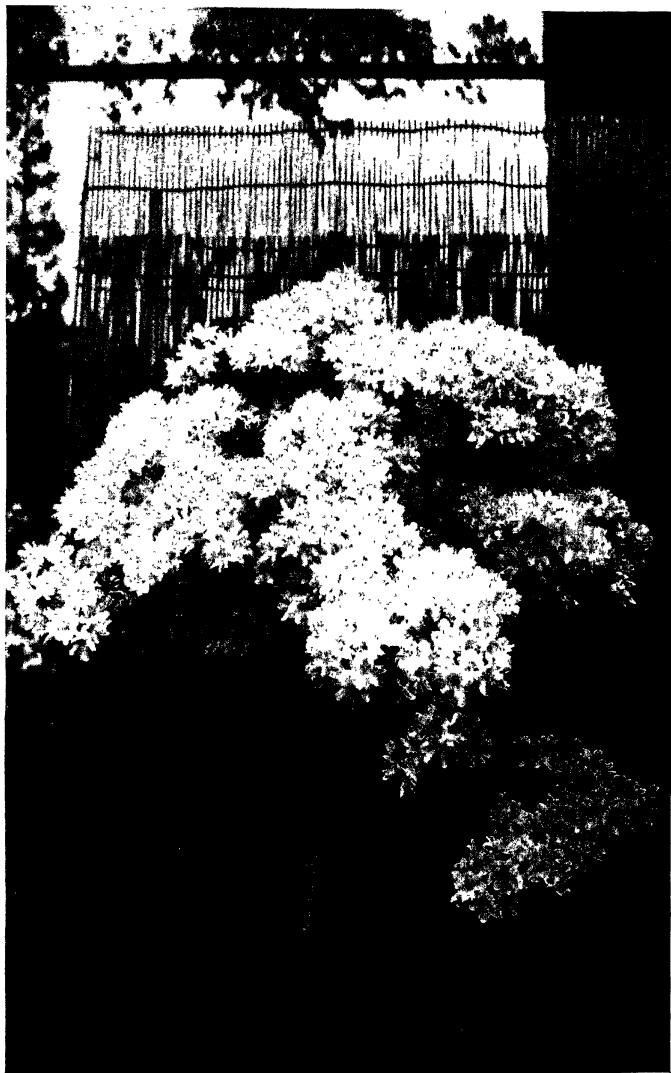
found the Kurume Azaleas. Writing about these Azaleas in his book, "Plant Hunting," Dr. Wilson says: "I was first introduced to the Kurume family in 1914 when, at the invitation of my lamented friend, the late Mr. H. Suzuki, the foremost Japanese horticulturist of his time, I accompanied him on a visit to the nursery district of Hatagaya, a few miles north of Tokyo. There in a garden I saw thousands of tiny plants bearing white and colored flowers of nearly every hue. With the courteous consent of the owner I secured a set of fragments and dried them for the Arnold Arboretum.

"In 1917, at my suggestion, Mr. John S. Ames secured a number of small plants from this collection and these were the first ever brought into the eastern states. They were midgets, indeed, but grew amazingly and flowered profusely and soon became one of the floral delights of the Ames estate, a joy to the owner and his friends.

"Just how hardy this race will prove remains to be seen, but I am of the opinion that under the genial influence of the Gulf Stream from Cape Cod southward many places will be found where they will be at home and

flourish in perfection. They root readily from cuttings and in conservatories may be had in blossom from Christmas until Easter. Good-natured, adaptable, at home in any surroundings, brightening and cheering us with a glow of color and beauty—the divine Princess Kurume is assured of a lasting welcome in the land of her adoption. Proud am I of being the fortunate one to introduce this exquisite damsel to the gardens of eastern North America.”

Although Wilson is justly credited with the introduction of the Kurume Azalea to cultivation in America, absolute accuracy, such as he always desired, makes it necessary to say that a number of plants had been sent from China to America at the time of the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915 at San Francisco. They were exhibited there and presumably passed into the hands of American gardeners at the close of the exposition. However that may have been, they evidently were soon lost, probably because of ignorance about the treatment which they required, for nothing has ever been heard about them since. It remained for Wilson to recognize the value of these Azaleas for cultivation in the gardens



*A specimen of the plant which Dr. Wilson liked to call "Her Royal Highness, the Princess Kurume"*



and greenhouses of America and to bring about their proper introduction.

On his next trip to Japan, Wilson was able to visit the headquarters of the family cultivating this Azalea in the city of Kurume, which is located on the island of Kyushu about 800 miles from Tokyo. Wilson writes:

“The gardens of two leading specialists were veritable fairy-lands and I gasped with astonishment when I realized that garden-lovers of America and Europe knew virtually nothing of this wealth of beauty. Most of the plants were trained into low standards, each about 20 inches high with flattened or convex crowns some 24 inches through, and were monuments to the patience and cultural skill of the Japanese gardener. The flowers, each about one-half to three-quarters of an inch across, were in such profusion as to almost hide the leaves. They are the roguish eyes of laughing, dimpled and blushing blossoms.”

There are more than 250 kinds of Kurume Azaleas as the Japanese gardeners identify them, but often the differences are too slight for the average person to comprehend. Wilson had two leading experts select six kinds as the best of all. They were as follows: Takasago,

Azuma-kagami, Kirin, Kumo-no-uye, Kurai-no-himo and Kureno-yuki.

In "Plant Hunting" Wilson gives a full list of the sorts brought over by him, 51 in all. The Japanese names are, of course, exceedingly difficult for western tongues to get around and wholly untranslatable. Accordingly, Wilson added an English name in each case, along with a note as to color. This list is indispensable to anyone collecting the Kurume Azalea as, indeed, is the whole story about their introduction as found in "Plant Hunting."

It is supposed that this race of plants was originated by a Japanese agent, Motozo Sakamoto, who lived in Kurume over a century ago. The parent stock seems to have come from the sacred Mount Kirishima. Several seedlings were raised and one was selected as the best and from it all the other pink colored forms are supposed to have come. Wilson succeeded in finding the original plant in an old garden belonging to K. Akashi. It was still healthy in spite of its great age, and the visitor tried to purchase it without success. He was, however, allowed to make a picture of it.

Wilson also penetrated to the mountain from which the plants are reputed to have come originally, spending a night at the base and then climbing to an altitude of 3,000 feet above sea level, where many bushes were found growing in volcanic soil among the rocks and on wind-swept slopes. Wilson was convinced by what he saw that this region was actually the source of the wonderful Azaleas of Kurume.



## CHAPTER VI

### AMONG THE HEAD HUNTERS



EARLY in 1917 still another eastern expedition was decided upon. Mrs. Wilson and Muriel were again the plant hunter's companions and the daughter spent ten months studying in a school in Korea, while her father was botanizing and seeking new plants in more distant parts of Korea and the island of Formosa.

Wilson and his family went first to Japan. Then he explored the Liukiu and Bonin Islands, after which he went to Korea, where he became well acquainted with Dr. Nakai, who was the government botanist of Korea and who gave him great assistance. During the year almost all the provinces were visited and Wilson was much impressed by the flora which he found, not because it was extensive but because of the apparent adaptability of the trees and shrubs to American conditions. During the next year he shifted about from



*Dr. Wilson surrounded by head hunters and Japanese policemen in Formosa*



Japan to Korea and from Korea to Formosa, with his family near at hand and his daughter, as stated, in a school in Korea.

The trips to Formosa were filled with adventures, for this is the land of the head hunters, whose trophies are to be seen in their tribal headquarters, Dr. Wilson making several pictures of them. The natives were kept in subjection, however, by Japanese policemen and acted as guides in Wilson's search for the *Taiwania*, the eastern counterpart of the *Sequoias* of California, and the principal object of the party's quest.

The natives disliked to travel far from home and refused several times to go any further. Dr. Wilson, however, had learned that firearms had an amazing fascination for these uncivilized men and with his usual diplomacy hit upon the idea of allowing them to fire his gun as an inducement to further traveling. Of course, the natives never hit anything, but they were willing to press on through the wilderness for hours in order to have the privilege of again discharging the rifle.

After a time, however, a great storm came up and for three days Wilson and his head

hunting companions were obliged to find what shelter they could under a great rock, with but little to eat, until they could resume their journey. At last, the *Taiwanias* were reached—giant trees which looked like the remnant of a lost civilization. Bushels of *Taiwania* seeds were gathered and sent to America but none of the seeds germinated. Fortunately, a few young trees were also brought back and now there are good specimens of the *Taiwania* in the southern and eastern parts of this country. An excellent specimen, first started in the Arnold Arboretum greenhouses, was afterward sent to the great glassed-in garden of Pierre S. duPont at Kennett Square, Pa., and is now at Fairmount Park, Philadelphia.

The natives of Formosa were fast being subdued by the Japanese policemen at that time, although in some instances it had been found necessary to build wire fences around certain sections, these fences being charged with electricity, the mysterious power of which prevented any attempt to pass definite bounds. After a time, however, the head hunters overcame some of their fear and Wilson related that they had learned, when he



*A small specimen of the Taiwania, the search for which carried Dr. Wilson to an isolated section of Formosa*



was there, how to escape by tunneling under the fences or by throwing blankets over the top.

Transportation was difficult but civilization was beginning to assert itself, a tiny narrow gauge railway having been constructed across the island. There were no locomotives, however, the diminutive cars being pushed along by the natives, except when a down grade was encountered. Then there was a wild scramble to climb aboard and a hilarious coast to the bottom of the hill. Sometimes there were catastrophes, too, and on one occasion the car in which Mr. Wilson was riding jumped the track and the plant hunter with his assistants was catapulted over the end into the soft earth. Luckily no harm was done and Wilson, after his return, related the incident with considerable gusto.

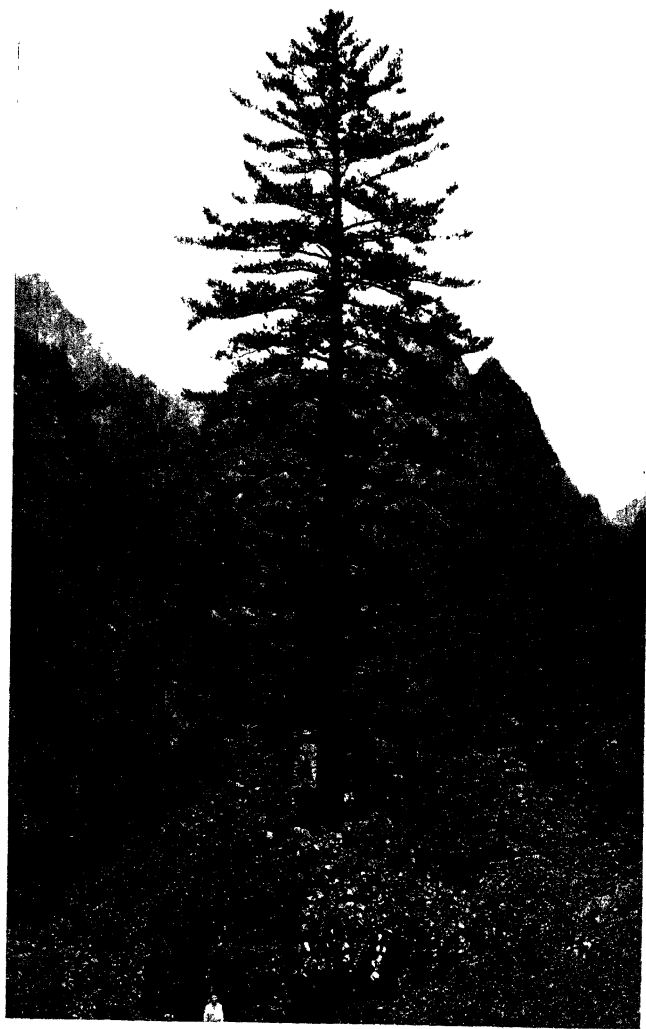
Wilson always had a fondness for mountains and did not hesitate to climb Mount Morrison, the highest peak of Formosa, towering 13,072 feet above sea level. It was an adventurous journey but one which he felt was justified by the thrill which came to him when he stood at the top of this lofty peak



and gazed over countless acres of virgin timber.

Wilson was back in Boston in March of 1919 and soon after was appointed assistant director of the Arnold Arboretum. Professor Sargent, however, was keenly interested in making closer contacts with the botanical gardens of the world in order to provide sources of horticultural information in Australia, New Zealand, India, Tasmania and South Africa. Accordingly, he requested Wilson to make a final and last journey, this time to the countries mentioned, not so much for the purpose of obtaining plant material as to visit important botanical stations.

The beginning of this tour was made in July, 1920, and Wilson stopped at the botanic gardens at Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane in Australia, after which he proceeded on a journey which covered a wide range and on which he made a large number of photographs, as well as collecting many herbarium specimens. The friendly relations which he established on this trip were of great value to the Arboretum, and the knowledge which he gained gave him



*Among the mountains of Korea, where Wilson spent several months*



material for an extremely interesting lecture as well as many articles.

The general summary of the tour appears in his book "Plant Hunting," a large section of which is given over to Australia and South Africa. On this trip Wilson went as far north as the Victoria Falls in central Africa and saw the original *Primulinus Gladiolus* thriving in spots where it was drenched with the spray of that great cataract. Thus he learned why — Nature had provided the drooping upper petal; it prevents moisture from reaching the heart of the flower to interfere with its proper pollenization.

Wilson returned home by way of London and spent a short time in France, but by the end of 1922 he was back in Boston to take up his work at the Arnold Arboretum and resume his interests in the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in which he soon became very active. He was established in a little office on the second floor of the Administration Building at the Arnold Arboretum, where he acted as a buffer for Professor Sargent, seeing many callers, answering innumerable questions and doing much to enhance the reputa-

tion of the Arboretum, and to make it better known in all parts of the country.

Later, after the death of Professor Charles S. Sargent on March 22, 1927, Wilson was made Keeper of the Arnold Arboretum, serving under Professor Oakes Ames, who was made Supervisor of the various institutions of this nature belonging to Harvard University. He himself chose the title of "Keeper," which is often used in England, but which sounded rather strange to American ears. He had many plans for the further development of the Arnold Arboretum and looked forward to many years of usefulness in his new position.

It is a pity that he could not have lived to finish the specific work on which he was engaged and which would have given the world a complete list, with a full description, of all the plants he had discovered. He had planned for ten years more of writing to make this his crowning achievement as an author.

♦

CHAPTER VII  
THE HARVEST OF THE YEARS



R. WILSON'S two trips for Messrs. Veitch & Sons resulted in his sending back about 2,000 seeds and plants and about 5,000 herbarium specimens, many of which proved new to science. Such a vast amount of material was collected that he was made a temporary assistant in the herbarium at Kew to help sort and identify the specimens.

In his two trips to China for the Arnold Arboretum, Wilson collected about 65,000 herbarium specimens, together with 1,593 lots of seeds, as well as 168 lots of plants and cuttings. Besides, he brought back 850 photographic plates which have proved of special value and which, with his other photographs, have been filed and catalogued in the Arnold Arboretum library, where they are available for scientific, horticultural and botanical purposes.

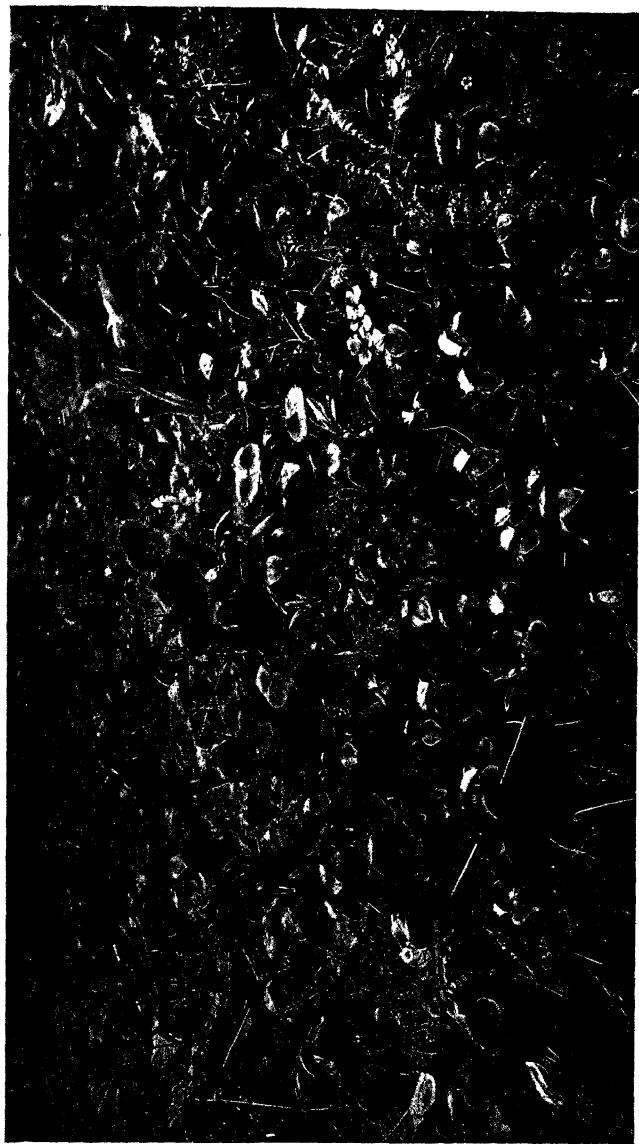
From Japan, Wilson sent back 2,000 her-

barium specimens, along with some 600 photographs. His expeditions to Korea and Formosa enabled him to collect 30,000 specimens and to make 700 photographs. On his return from Formosa he also brought a number of living plants, including the *Taiwania*, which has now been established in the southern and western parts of this country.

In all, Dr. Wilson collected about 16,000 herbarium specimens, many of which have been stored in the great herbarium at the Arnold Arboretum, which occupies a special wing of the Administration Building and where all the material is so carefully filed and indexed that any particular specimen can be found in a moment or two.

It is important to make a distinction between the living plants and the seeds of plants which Wilson brought back and succeeded in having established in gardens here and abroad and the herbarium specimens which were collected for study and reference work. Wilson was a good botanist as well as a plant hunter and collector. His service to science along botanical lines has been greater perhaps than is commonly realized.

Among Dr. Wilson's introductions are



*Cypripedium tibeticum*, a Ladyslipper found on the borderland of Tibet, from which fact it takes its name





many plants which are well-known in England, but which are seldom seen in this country. They include such fine Rhododendrons as *R. fortunei*, *R. discolor*, *R. intricatum* and *R. fargesii*. Then there was a group of Primroses, including *Primula cockburniana*, which, until the discovery of *P. chungensis*, remained unique in the genus. Dr. Wilson declared that Cockburn's Primrose had more character in the turn of its leaf than many others had about them altogether. *Primula vittata* and Veitch's Primrose are two others. Then there was one which, unfortunately, has been lost to cultivation but which was the first plant to bear Dr. Wilson's name. *Primula wilsoni* was found on the first expedition. Seeds sent back to England produced a plant which bloomed for the first time on the day that Dr. Wilson's daughter was born. That accounts for the fact that her name became Muriel Primrose Wilson.

The chestnut-leaved *Rodgersia* is a Wilsonian introduction, as are three of the *Senecio* genus—*S. clivorum*, *S. veitchianus* and *S. wilsonianus*. *Paeonia willmottiana*, *Astilbe grandis* and *A. davidi*, and the tall-growing form

of *Lilium philippinense formosanum* were among Wilson's "babies," as he called them.

Orchids did not escape his interest. He introduced *Cypripedium tibeticum* from the heathlands of the Tibetan border, *Pleione pogonioides* from central China, and *Cymbidium wilsoni* from Yunnan.

*Buxus microphylla koreana* promises to become a useful plant in this country. *Jasminum primulinum* has come to be a popular garden plant in Australia, as have several other Chinese introductions. In Europe and in the southern states *Lonicera nitida* is proving a remarkably fine hedge plant. *Rosa helenae*, found by Dr. Wilson in China, was named for his wife. *Stewartia koreana* is likely to prove a favored plant when better known.

Even these do not complete the list of Wilson's introductions now in cultivation here or elsewhere, but the list is long enough to give an adequate reason for the place which Dr. Wilson occupies as a plant hunter and for the esteem in which he is held by all who know and love garden flowers.

In recognition of his services to horticulture, Wilson received many awards. He was

given the Victoria Medal of Honour by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1912, the Veitch Memorial Medal, the George Robert White Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Centennial Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York, the Geoffrey St. Hilaire Gold Medal, and the Rhododendron Society's Cup. He was president of the Kew Guild in 1922.

Dr. Wilson was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an honorary M.A. of Harvard University, and as recently as last June he was given the D.Sc. degree by Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.

Over 100 plants introduced by Wilson have been given First-Class Certificates or Awards of Merit by the Royal Horticultural Society. Among so many it is difficult to make a small choice, but particularly outstanding are *Lilium regale*, *Davidia involucrata*, *Cornus kousa chinensis*, *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, *Rosa moyesi*, *Magnolia wilsoni*, *Rhododendron discolor* and *R. orbiculare*.

In recognition of his services to Chinese botany a new genus of hamamelidaceae from China, *Sinowilsonia*, was named in his honor.

Besides this, about 60 species and varieties of Chinese plants bear his name, among them the following: *Aconitum wilsoni*, *Aesculus wilsoni*, *Aralia wilsoni*, *Cladrastis wilsoni*, *Corydalis wilsoni*, *Daphne wilsoni*, *Deutzia wilsoni*, *Evonymus wilsoni*, *Ilex wilsoni*, *Iris wilsoni*, *Magnolia wilsoni*, *Populus wilsoni*, *Rubus wilsoni*, *Salix wilsoni*, *Sophora wilsoni*, *Sorbus wilsoniana*, *Spiraea wilsoni*, *Styrax wilsoni*, *Ulmus wilsoniana*, *Viburnum wilsoni*.



*Regal Lilies as they grew for the man who discovered them*



## CHAPTER VIII

### WILSON'S RHODODENDRON'S IN ENGLAND



ENGLAND has been benefited to a greater degree than almost any other country by Dr. Wilson's introductions, this being due largely to its favorable climate. Visitors from the United States are surprised at the great number of Wilson plants which they find growing in English gardens but with which they are not familiar. This is particularly true of Rhododendrons. As a matter of fact, it was Wilson who first made the Chinese wealth of Rhododendrons known to the horticultural world and it is in England that his Rhododendrons are most at home.

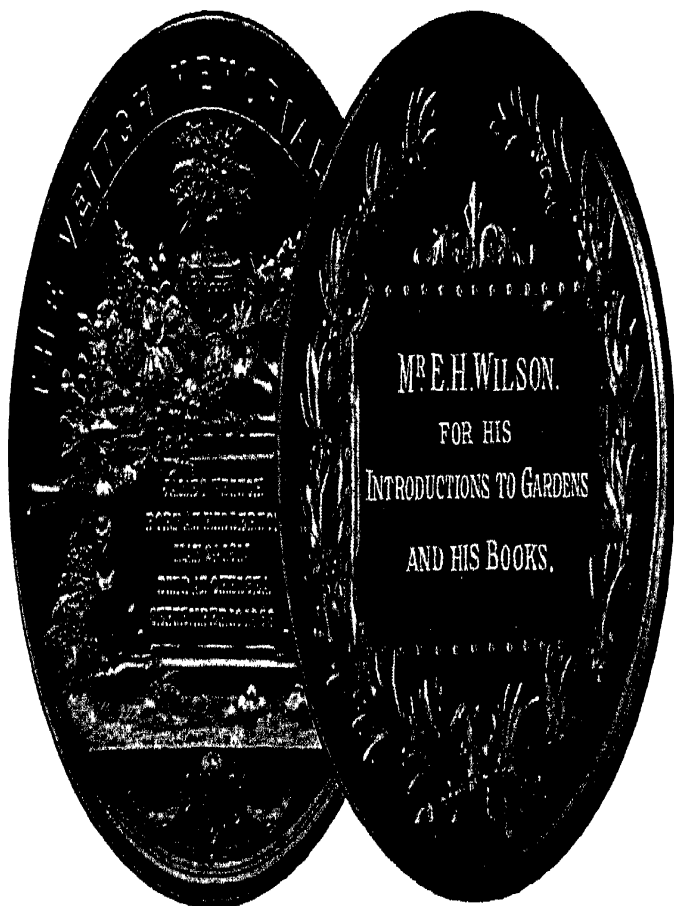
When Wilson visited China for the first time, which was in 1899, a goodly number of Rhododendron species had been described from material collected by Pere David, Delavay, Augustine Henry and others, but only 16 species from the whole of China were



growing in gardens. Of, these, *Rhododendron fortunei* and *R. racemosum* were the only ones generally known. From the time Mr. Wilson's collecting began in China, until it ended in 1911, he collected no fewer than 79 species of which 35 were new to science. Of these he successfully introduced into gardens 64 species. Among them are species like *R. lutescens*, which blossoms in January and others like *R. auriculatum*, which does not flower until August.

Mr. Wilson's Chinese Rhododendrons are now among the most familiar plants in many British gardens, where their merit is acclaimed by all enthusiasts. Following is a list of the species from central and western China first introduced by Mr. Wilson, and those familiar with Rhododendrons will note the well-known names. In addition to them, a number of critical species have been described, but are not taken cognizance of here.

Indispensable as these Rhododendrons are now considered in English gardens they have, unfortunately, no value in Massachusetts. To Mr. Wilson, himself, the irony was no doubt evident, since, of all the species he had introduced from central and western China, only



*The Veitch Memorial Medal awarded Dr. Wilson in 1926*



*R. micranthum*, and this the least meritorious of them all, is hardy in the Arnold Arboretum. The full list follows:

<i>R. adenopodum</i>	<i>R. magorianum</i>
<i>R. ambiguum</i>	<i>R. micranthum</i>
<i>R. amesiae</i>	<i>R. moupinense</i>
<i>R. argyrophyllum</i>	<i>R. orbiculare</i>
<i>R. augustini violascens</i>	<i>R. oreodoxa</i>
<i>R. auriculatum</i>	<i>R. pachytrichum</i>
<i>R. bracteatum</i>	<i>R. pittosporaeifolium</i>
<i>R. calophytum</i>	<i>R. planetum</i>
<i>R. concinnum</i>	<i>R. polylepis</i>
<i>R. davidi</i>	<i>R. ririei</i>
<i>R. davidsonianum</i>	<i>R. sargentianum</i>
<i>R. discolor</i>	<i>R. searsiae</i>
<i>R. edgarianum</i>	<i>R. siderophyllum</i>
<i>R. faberi</i>	<i>R. souliei</i>
<i>R. faberioides</i>	<i>R. strigillosum</i>
<i>R. fargesii</i>	<i>R. sutchuenense</i>
<i>R. flavidum</i>	<i>R. taliense</i>
<i>R. floribundum</i>	<i>R. thayerianum</i>
<i>R. galactinum</i>	<i>R. trichostomum</i>
<i>R. hanceanum</i>	<i>R. villosum</i>
<i>R. houstoni</i>	<i>R. violaceum</i>
<i>R. hunnewellianum</i>	<i>R. wasoni</i>
<i>R. hypoglaucum</i>	<i>R. watsoni</i>
<i>R. insigne</i>	<i>R. websterianum</i>
<i>R. intricatum</i>	<i>R. weldianum</i>
<i>R. longesquamatum</i>	<i>R. williamsianum</i>
<i>R. longistylum</i>	<i>R. wilsonae</i>
<i>R. lutescens</i>	<i>R. wiltoni</i>
<i>R. maculiferum</i>	<i>R. yanthinum</i>

In 1926, Wilson was awarded the Loder Cup by the Royal Horticultural Society and the Rhododendron Society for his Rhododendron introductions. The late Professor C. S. Sargent is the only other man in America to have received this award.

♦

CHAPTER IX  
IN PRIVATE LIFE



R. WILSON was a cosmopolite. He was at home with any group of people in any corner of the earth. Nevertheless, he was not a good mixer, in the commonly accepted sense of the word. With strangers he was courteous but uncommunicative. He was amiable but reserved with casual acquaintances. Only when with close friends did he lose a certain shyness which always characterized his associations with other persons. Sometimes he was brusque, occasionally giving offense for that reason. He had very firm convictions for which he was not afraid to fight. He was extremely loyal to his intimate friends and would go to almost any length to serve them. It must be admitted, though, that his intimate circle was not large. Several of his warmest friendships, like that with the late Jackson Dawson and the late Thomas Roland, were severed by death. His regard for the late



*Dr. Wilson inspecting Azaleas in the greenhouse of the late Professor Charles S. Sargent*



Professor Charles S. Sargent, director of the Arnold Arboretum, whom he called "chief" was almost hero worship. It was through Professor Sargent, of course, that his association with the Arnold Arboretum began. He also had great respect for Professor Oakes Ames, Supervisor of the Arnold Arboretum after Professor Sargent's death, and spoke warmly of his pleasant relations with him. He often differed with the late Albert C. Burrage, for ten years president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, but held him in high regard. The loss of Mr. Roland, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Burrage within a period of two years was a staggering blow to that great organization.

Wilson was a wide reader, delighting in books of a general nature as well as those dealing with horticulture. He could converse fluently on many subjects but curiously enough had to be coaxed to talk about his travels and adventures in China. It was only when among his close friends, indeed, that he would discuss matters outside of botany or horticulture, which engaged his attention in foreign lands. Yet he had very decided opinions about political and social affairs in China



and his books reveal a wide knowledge of conditions there, ranging from the domestic life of the people to the opium traffic. One chapter in his book "China—Mother of Gardens" deals with the peculiar customs of the natives in the Tibetan borderland region where polyandry is the rule, one woman being the wife of all the brothers of the family. He purchased all important books on China, written by others, as soon as they appeared. He liked Genghis Khan.

Despite the rebellions, revolutions and turmoils which have robbed China of its solidarity in recent years, Wilson had sufficient confidence in the future of the country to buy the bonds of the Chinese railroads, revealing the fact, perhaps, that he was more of an optimist than a first-class business man.

Wilson was long a trustee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, chairman of the Committee on Lectures and Publications and a member of the Exhibition Committee. He, with Miss Marian Roby Case, had much to do with the purchase of *Horticulture* by the society and was very active in advancing the interests of that publication.

The society had taken an unusual step



*A characteristic pose when Dr. Wilson was welcoming visitors to his garden*



in establishing this paper as a national publication and not merely as its organ. By the co-operation of The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and The Horticultural Society of New York, *Horticulture* was made to serve the interests of a great number of persons aside from its general circulation. Wilson was gratified to find, as time went on, that whatever opposition to this plan might have existed among the trustees at first was swept away by the paper's success, and much of what *Horticulture* has become as a periodical of world-wide circulation is due to his advice and assistance. The accuracy of the paper's statements has become proverbial, the credit of which is due mostly to Wilson, who read all the proof of every issue.

Another organization with which Dr. Wilson was very closely identified was the Horticultural Club of Boston, an organization of limited membership but representing many branches of horticulture, commercial and amateur, with each member supposed to have achieved some marked degree of success in his specialty. The late John K. M. L. Farquhar and Dr. Wilson were the only presidents the club had had up to the latter's

death and both were charter members of this 20-year-old organization. Wilson's close friend Harlan P. Kelsey succeeded him as president and another intimate friend, Fred A. Wilson, who collaborated with him on one piece of work on Roses, has been secretary for several years, succeeding Wilson as secretary when Wilson succeeded Farquhar as president. It was on one of the little journeys Dr. Wilson loved to make that he found himself with Fred A. Wilson at a summer exhibition in Bar Harbor, Me. It was during the war. As they entered the hall, a large group of Regal Lilies was shown, but badly marred in transit and not well arranged. "Look there," exclaimed Dr. Wilson to his friend, "was it for that that I broke this leg and prevented my fighting for my country?" He slapped the offending member as he spoke. As a rule, he said little about the war, but he felt deeply his inability to take an active part in it—and as an Englishman.

The warm fellowship which existed among the members of this club made it close to his heart. In impromptu addresses at the meetings of this club, never reported, he was at his best

and members will cherish such occasions above most other events in the annals of the club.


In his later years Wilson was much in demand as a speaker and gave lectures in many parts of the country. He was not an orator and sometimes seemed a bit awkward on the stage but, nevertheless, he had a free flow of language and painted graphic word pictures of distant countries to which his plant-hunting expeditions had carried him.

Several years ago The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society celebrated its 100th anniversary. Dr. Wilson was one of the speakers. I sat beside him at the head table to respond for the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. In front of Wilson was a huge bouquet made up of flowers of many different kinds. I noticed that Wilson gazed at it with rapt attention for some time, and that presently a smile played over his face. When he arose to speak he cast aside all the notes which he had previously made and, lifting a single flower from the vase, told the story of its discovery, its introduction and its development. Then he passed on to another flower. Holding the audience enthralled with reminiscences, timely

observations and informative comments, he passed from one blossom to another until no more were left in the vase to discuss. It was one of the finest examples of impromptu speaking to which I have ever listened and the impulse to turn his talk in this direction was little less than an inspiration.

## CHAPTER X

### WILSON AS AN AUTHOR

HE statement has been made that Dr. Wilson's writings possess much less of a literary quality than do those of the late Reginald Farrer, a contemporary English plant hunter and author. It may be true that Wilson displayed less brilliancy in his literary work than did Farrer, some of whose books have come to be regarded almost as classics. Wilson was much more informative than Farrer, however, more accurate, and perhaps it may be said more painstaking. His style varied. Occasionally it was prosy and uninteresting but even then his statements never lacked for facts, and not infrequently he penned passages not to be surpassed by anything which Farrer wrote.

This is particularly evident to one who reads his later works, especially "China—Mother of Gardens" and "Aristocrats of the Trees." The former will inevitably remain



for many years the most comprehensive, authoritative and readable work on Chinese horticulture, botany and physical characteristics. In this book Dr. Wilson displays a versatility which even his admirers did not dream that he possessed. Departing many times from the path of the botanist and the horticultural explorer, he deals with customs, tendencies and human nature as found in isolated sections of a great country with a perspicacity, keenness of insight and a subtle humor which make this book of greatest value.

Wilson kept a diary and day by day recorded his impressions as well as his accomplishments and his defeats. This diary was drawn upon constantly in the writing of "China—Mother of Gardens" so that, to some extent at least, this book is an autobiography. Curiously enough, it was based on the very first book which he wrote when a young man, "A Naturalist in Western China." He used this book of his youth as a narrative on which to hang the observations and reflections of maturer life.

"Aristocrats of the Trees" was a work of love to a large degree. Wilson's affection for



*Lilium sargentiae*, one of Wilson's discoveries, is milk-white within, rose-purple to greenish without



trees was one of the most enduring traits of his life. He loved trees with an ardor which the average man can hardly comprehend. He would drive miles or walk if necessary—although he despised walking—to see a fine specimen of Nature's handiwork. Into this book he has poured the history, poetry and knowledge of a lifetime spent in the company of trees. There is no other book like it and probably never will be.

In the book, "Plant Hunting," Wilson has recorded the whole history of man's endeavor to seek out new trees and shrubs in distant corners of the earth for the embellishment of gardens. It is an amazing story and is written by a man who spent years in digging out the truth about his predecessors—a long line of plant-hunting heroes, not a few of whom lost their lives in the path of duty. There is no way in which to get a more comprehensive conception of the flora of Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Tasmania, Korea, Japan and China than by perusing the two volumes of this work, in preparation for the writing of which Wilson gave much of his life.

"Aristocrats of the Garden" and "More Aristocrats" are less scholarly and less ambi-

tious books, but of greater value perhaps to the garden maker who is seeking knowledge about the best trees and shrubs, the choicest perennials and the newer Lilies.

Another book, entirely different in its character, is "The Lilies of Eastern Asia." This book reveals the scientific side of Wilson's nature. It is an exceedingly scholarly and scientific work, but as usual Wilson had a friendly feeling for the amateur and appended a certain amount of information in popular language, which makes the book both unique and of value to all who are interested in Lilies.

"The Conifers and Taxads of Japan" and "A Monograph of Azaleas" (written with the co-operation of Alfred Rehder) are distinctly botanical and show a degree of painstaking accuracy seldom surpassed.

In 1917 Wilson and Rehder concluded the monumental work, inspired and edited by Professor Sargent, called "Plantae Wilsonianae," which was started in 1911 and published by the Arnold Arboretum and which lists all of Wilson's introductions and collections up to that time with notes as to magazine articles and books in which the

plants mentioned have been figured or described. This is strictly a scientific work, of little value to the layman, but of great service to botanists, although some important changes have been made in the light of later knowledge.

Wilson wrote voluminously for the magazines, especially in his later years. A full list of his contributions follows, through the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Rehder, who prepared and published it in the "Journal of the Arnold Arboretum" in October, 1930, together with a brief sketch of Wilson's career and a tribute to him:

Western China, a field for the sportsman. (In Field 1905, cvi, 109.)

Rubus innominatus. [London. 1905.]

"From the Gard. chron.," 1905, 3d ser., xxxviii, 290-291.

Leaves from my Chinese note-book. (In Gardeners' chronicle, ser. 3, 1905-06, xxxvii-xxxix.)

Vegetables. Illustr. (In Freeman, W. G., and Chandler, S. E. The world's commercial products, 1907, pp. 254-263.)

Fruits. Illustr. (Ibid, 1907, pp. 263-278.)

[Arnold arboretum expedition to China, 1907-1909; a series of 720 photographs.]

Gardeners' chronicle (contributions in). 1907-24, ser. 3, xli-lxxv. 30 articles.

Chinese Rhododendrons. [In collaboration with W. B. Hemsley.] (Kew bulletin of miscellaneous information, 1910, pp. 101-120.)

Plant novelties from China. (In *Horticulture*, 1910, xi, 5, 37, 69, 105, 145, 181, 221, 257, 293, 329, 367, 433, 473.)

Field notes relating to plants collected on the Arnold arboretum second expedition to western China, 1910. London, etc. [1911].

[Arnold arboretum second expedition to China, 1910-1911; a series of 384 photographs.]

The kingdom of flowers. Illustr. (In *National geographic magazine*, 1911, xxii, 1003-1035.)

Sargent, C. S., editor. *Plantae Wilsonianae* (contributions in). 1911-17. 12 articles by E. H. Wilson: 47 articles in collaboration with Alfred Rehder.

Vegetation of western China. Introduction of C. S. Sargent. London. 1912. (Arnold arboretum. Publications, 2.)

An index to accompany a selection of 500 photographs from his "Arnold arboretum expedition to China, 1907-1909."

A naturalist in western China; being some account of eleven years' travel. With introduction by C. S. Sargent. 2 vol. London, Methuen & Co. [1913.] Plates.

*The same.* 2 vol. New York, Doubleday, Page & Co. 1913. Plates.

The "wood-oil" trees of China and Japan. [London. 1913.]

*Bulletin of the Imperial institute*, 1913, xi, 441-461.

[The Arnold arboretum expedition to Japan, 1914; a series of 619 photographs.]

The family tree of the modern Rose. Done into graphic form by F. A. Wilson. [Boston.] 1915. Chart  $24\frac{7}{8}$  x  $18\frac{1}{2}$  in.

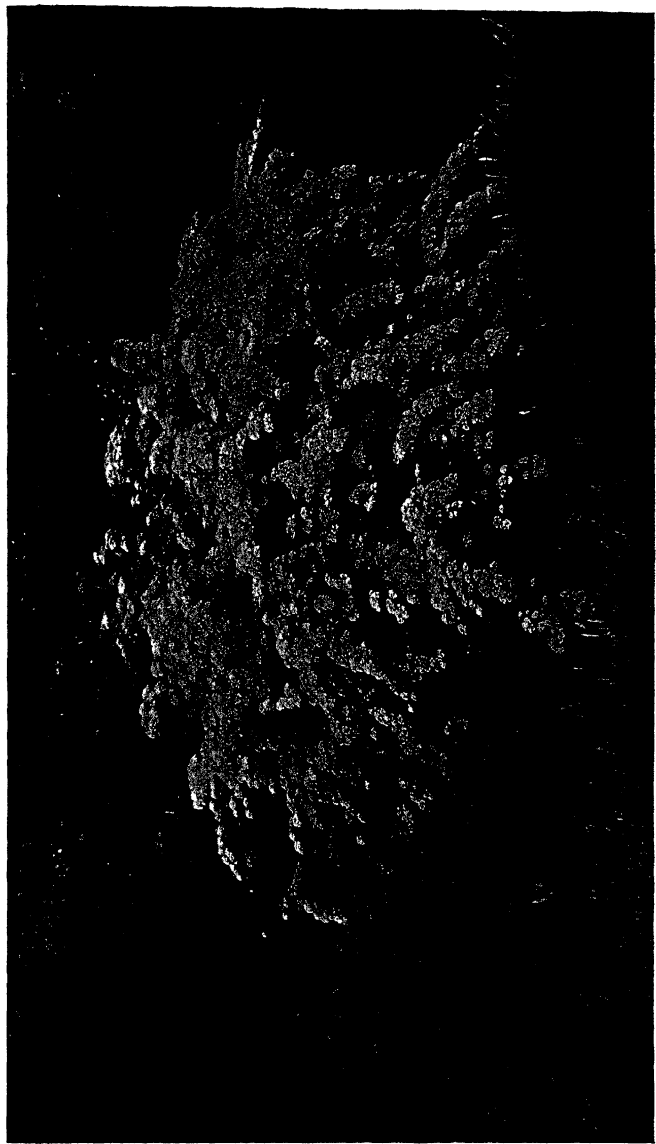
The Cherries of Japan. Cambridge, University Press. 1916. (Arnold arboretum. Publications, 7.)

The Conifers and Taxads of Japan. Cambridge, University Press. 1916. (Arnold arboretum. Publications, 8.)

A century of certified plants introduced from China. (In *Journal of the Royal horticultural society*, 1916, xlii, 35.)

The history and botanical relationships of the modern rose.

[114]



*Spiraea veitchii*, one of Wilson's early introductions from China





[In collaboration with F. A. Wilson.] N. P. cop. 1916.  
Chart 32 $\frac{5}{8}$  x 25 $\frac{1}{8}$  in.

The American Rose annual. (contributions in).

[i.] 1916. Some new Roses introduced by the  
Arnold arboretum during the past decade, pp. 37-41.

[viii.] 1923. Roses in Australia, pp. 118-120.

[ix.] 1924. What Roses does America need? pp.  
23-25.

Aristocrats of the garden. Garden City; New York, Double-  
day, Page & Co. 1917. Plates.

*The same.* [2d ed.] Boston, The Stratford Company.  
1926. Plates.

This edition has an entirely new set of plates.

The vegetation of Korea. [Seoul. 1918.]

Reprinted from the *Transactions of the Korea branch of the Royal  
Asiatic society*, 1918, ix, 1-16.

A summary report on the forests, forest trees, and afforestation  
in Chosen (Korea). [Edinburgh. 1919.]

Reprinted from the *Transactions of the Royal Scottish arboricul-  
tural society*, 1919, xxxiii, 44-51.

Work of Arnold arboretum. Broadside. Illustr.

Reprinted from *Christian science monitor*, June 2-4, 1919.

The romance of our trees. Garden City; New York, Double-  
day, Page & Company. 1920. Plates.

Enlarged from articles in *Garden magazine*, 1919-20.

Kurume Azaleas. (In Bulletin of the Massachusetts horti-  
cultural society, 1920, no. 3.)

Journal of the Arnold arboretum (contributions in).

i. 1920 [19-20]. A phytogeographical sketch of  
the ligneous flora of Korea, pp. 32-43; The Bonin Islands  
and their ligneous vegetation, pp. 97-115; New woody  
plants from the Bonin Islands [in collaboration with  
Alfred Rehder], pp. 115-121; The Liukiu Islands and  
their ligneous vegetation, pp. 171-186; Four new Coni-  
fers from Korea, pp. 186-190; Camphor, *Cinnamomum*  
*camphora* Nees & Ebermaier, pp. 239-242.

ii. 1922 [20-22]. A phytogeographical sketch of  
the ligneous flora of Formosa, pp. 25-41; The "Indian  
Azaleas" at Magnolia gardens, pp. 159-160; Notes from  
Australasia, i, ii, pp. 160-163, 232-236.

iii. 1922. Notes from Australasia, iii, pp. 51-55.

iv. 1923. The Rhododendrons of northeastern Asia exclusive of those belonging to the subgenus *Anthodendron*, pp. 33-56; Northern trees in southern lands, pp. 61-90; The Hortensias, *Hydrangea macrophylla* DC. and *Hydrangea serrata* DC., pp. 233-246.

v. 1924. The Rhododendrons of Hupeh, pp. 84-107; A new species of *Reevesia*, pp. 233-235.

vi. 1925. The Rhododendrons of eastern China, the Bonin and Liukiu Islands and of Formosa, pp. 156-186; *Rhododendron chrysocalyx*, *Lév. & Vaniot*, pp. 200-201.

vii. 1926. The Taxads and Conifers of Yunnan, pp. 37-68; *Thuja orientalis* Linnaeus, pp. 71-74; *Gymnospermae* [of New Caledonia], pp. 76-85.

viii. 1927. *Juniperus procera* Hochst., pp. 1-2; An enumeration of the ligneous plants of Anhwei, by Alfred Rehder and Ernest H. Wilson, pp. 150-199; 238-240.

ix. 1928. Enumeration of the ligneous plants collected by J. F. Rock on the Arnold arboretum expedition to northwestern China and northeastern Tibet, by Alfred Rehder and Ernest H. Wilson, pp. 4-27; 37-125; *Podocarpus falcata* R. Br., pp. 143-144.

x. 1929. *Widdringtonia juniperoides*, pp. 1-2.

xi. 1930. *Thuja orientalis* and *Juniperus chinensis*, pp. 135-136.

A monograph of *Azaleas* [in collaboration with A. Rehder]. Cambridge, University Press. 1921 (*Arnold arboretum. Publications*, 9).

The *Azaleas* of the Old World; by E. H. Wilson.—The *Azaleas* of North America; by Alfred Rehder.

Indigenous forest trees of Kenya. 2 pt. (In *The Farmers journal of East Africa*, 1922, iv, no. 8, pp. 17-20; no. 10, pp. 17-20.)

*Rhododendron* society notes (contributions in).

ii. 1922-24. The Rhododendrons of northeastern Asia, pp. 93-106; The Rhododendrons of Hupeh, central China, pp. 160-174; The Rhododendrons of the Bonin and Liukiu Islands and of Formosa, pp. 228-240.

- iii. 1925['26]. The Rhododendrons of eastern China, pp. 18-28.
- Acacias. (In Bulletin of the Massachusetts horticultural society, 1923, n. 11.)
- Autumn landscapes.  
*Christian science monitor*, Oct. 8, 1923.
- Garden magazine (contributions in). Illustr.  
 xxxvi-xxxviii. 1923-24. Travel tales of a plant collector, xxxvi, 264-268, 309-311; xxxvii, 35-38, 127-130, 185-189, 247-252, 326-330, 384-387; xxxviii, 35-39, 101-105; Indian Azaleas at Magnolia, p. 159; Travel tales of a plant collector, pp. 170-173, 285-287, 355-359.  
 xxxix. 1924. Where Orchids are at home, pp. 215-219.  
 30 shorter articles contributed to vol. xix-xxxii, 1914-1921.
- Northern trees in southern lands. [Lancaster, Pa., 1923.]  
 "Reprinted from *Journal of the Arnold arboretum*," 1923, iv, 61-90.
- The same*. New issue. 1929.
- Country life (contributions in). Illustr.  
 liii. 1923. Oriental Cherries, pp. 511-514.  
 liv. 1923. Oriental Crabapples, pp. 9-12; Hawthorns, pp. 681-683.  
 lv. 1924. American Crabapples, pp. 26-28; The Magnolias, 2 pts., pp. 214-216, 252-253.  
 lvi. 1924. The modern Rose, 2 pt., pp. 648-650, 679-681; Wild Roses, pp. 848-850.  
 lvii. 1925. Hardy Azaleas, 2 pts., pp. 339-340, 444-445; Viburnums, pt. 1, pp. 1038-1040.  
 lviii. 1925. Viburnums, pt. 2, pp. 25-27.
- Horticulture (contributions in), 1923-1930, n. s. I-VIII.  
 99 articles. Illustr.
- Harvard's tree museum.  
*Museum work*, 1924, vi, 147-152.
- Garden (contributions in), 1924-1926, lxxxviii-xc. 26 articles.
- House and garden (contributions in), 1924-1930. Illustr.

xliv. 1924. The royalty of spring, no. 3, pp. 61-63, 116, 118; Early flowering trees and shrubs, no. 4, pp. 62, 63, 114, 118, 122; Hardy climbers for the garden, no. 5, pp. 70, 71, 120, 122, 124; Wild Roses for the garden, no. 6, pp. 66, 67, 130, 132, 134.

xlvi. 1924. The brilliant gaiety of Azaleas, no. 1, pp. 56, 57, 100, 102, 104; The best hardy Conifers, no. 2, pp. 50, 51, 102, 104, 106, 108; Hawthorns for ornamental planting, no. 3, pp. 70, 71, 124, 126, 130, 132; Green carpets for various grounds, no. 4, pp. 66, 67, 106, 108, 110; Mid-season flowering trees and shrubs, no. 5, pp. 64, 65, 138, 140, 142; Fruiting trees and shrubs, no. 6, pp. 60, 61, 114, 120, 122.

xlvii. 1925. The beauty of the Barberries, no. 1, pp. 76, 77, 110, 114, 116; Winter beauty in the woody plants, no. 2, pp. 80, 81, 106, 108, 110, 114; The Cherries of Japan, no. 3, pp. 92, 93, 114, 116, 122; The Dogwoods and their great variety, no. 4, pp. 78, 79, 100, 102, 104; Honeysuckles in bush and vine, no. 5, pp. 90, 91, 114, 116; The glory of the Lilies, no. 6, pp. 66, 67, 116, 118, 124.

xlvi. 1925. The excellent family of Viburnums, no. 1, pp. 66, 67, 108, 110, 114, 116; The architecture of trees, no. 2, pp. 72-75, 108, 110, 112; The family of Evonymus, no. 3, pp. 90, 91, 148, 154; Good bulbs from South Africa, no. 4, pp. 72, 73, 136, 138, 140; From Australia come Acacias, no. 5, pp. 92, 93, 120, 122; Curious fruits from many plants, no. 6, pp. 66, 67, 120, 122, 124.

xlix. 1926. Pecans and other Nut trees, no. 1, pp. 74, 75, 118, 122; Some Yews and low-growing Conifers, no. 2, pp. 82, 83, 150, 154; The best street trees for town betterment, no. 3, pp. 112, 182, 186, 188; Twelve best shrubs for ten regions, no. 3, pp. 101, 166; The coming of Kurume Azaleas, no. 4, pp. 112-113, 142, 146, 148; Spring beauty in the garden, no. 5, pp. 116, 117, 150, 154, 156, 170.

51 shorter articles contributed to vol. L-LVIII, July 1926-1930.



*The mountainous region in China where the Barbary which bears Dr. Wilson's name was discovered*



- America's greatest garden. Boston, The Stratford Company. 1925. Plates.
- The same.* [2d issue.] Boston, The Stratford Company. 1925. Plates.
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\*This important book was under way when Wilson was killed. It was completed by his daughter and published posthumously.

## DR. WILSON'S SEVEN EXPEDITIONS

First trip to China for James Veitch & Sons .	1899
Second trip to China for James Veitch & Sons .	1903
Third trip to China for the Arnold Arboretum	1907
Fourth trip to China for the Arnold Arboretum	1910
Fifth trip to Japan for the Arnold Arboretum	1914
Sixth trip to Japan, Korea and Formosa for the Arnold Arboretum . . . . .	1917
Seventh trip to South Africa, Australia, India, New Zealand and Tasmania for the Arnold Arboretum . . . . .	1920

## PLANTS INTRODUCED BY WILSON

*Note:* The material in this list is arranged in the following order: botanical name, common name (if any) and description. Synonyms of botanical names are in italics. This is not, of course, a complete list of Wilson's introductions, but embraces those which he seems to have considered the most important and the most valuable for garden use, in addition to some which have been tested and shown to be especially handsome or useful here or abroad. Many of Wilson's introductions which are unknown in America are being grown successfully in England.

ABELIA ENGLERIANA—Deciduous shrub, up to 4 feet with a bushy habit; foliage bright glossy green; flowers small and rose-colored. Henry discovered this shrub in Szechuan in 1888 but it was introduced to cultivation in 1908 by Wilson.

ABELIA SCHUMANNI—Shrub, up to 5 feet; pink flowers borne on short side growths. Introduced from western China in 1915.

ABIES FARGESI—This Fir from central China is reasonably hardy as far north as New England but suffers in severe winters. It has mahogany purple shoots and large, long, black-green leaves, silvery on the under surface. Dr. Wilson considered it of much promise. Introduced from central China in 1901.

ABIES FAXONIANA—Silver Fir, up to 120 feet, with

dark gray bark and long violet-purple cones. Introduced from western China in 1911.

*ACANTHOPANAX HENRYI*—Stiff shrub, up to 10 feet; the foliage and round clusters of black fruit are the most interesting features of this shrub; flowers are borne in terminal clusters or umbels. Introduced from central China in 1901.

*ACANTHOPANAX SETCHUENENSIS*—Deciduous shrub up to 10 feet; pinnate leaves are dark green; flowers are borne in umbels on the tips of the current year's growth during July; fruits are black. Introduced from western China in 1904.

*ACER GRISEUM* (Paperbark Maple)—Deciduous tree with peeling bark that attains a height of 40 feet; young twigs are woolly; leaves are compound and glaucous beneath; flowers insignificant; fruits winged. A most striking tree because of the peeling bark which reveals an orange color beneath and the vivid autumn coloring of the foliage. Introduced from central China in 1901.

*ACER DAVIDI*—Maple from central China with leaves which turn yellow and purple in autumn. Introduced in 1879 and again (by Wilson) in 1902.

*ACER TETRAMERUM*—Maple tree up to 30 feet with yellow flowers. First discovered by Henry in Hupeh but introduced by Wilson in 1901.

*ACONITUM HEMSLEYANUM*—Perennial, 8 to 12 feet high; blooms in August and September; flowers sometimes deep blue, sometimes pale. Not easily raised from seeds.

*ACONITUM WILSONI* (Violet Monkshood)—Perennial, 6 to 7 feet high; blooms in September; flowers

large and very deep blue. The root stock is tuberous and the plants require strong soil. Easily raised from seed. In general cultivation. Considered by Bailey as a form of *Aconitum fischeri*.

ACTINIDIA CHINENSIS (Yangtao)—Climbing vine, up to 24 feet, with creamy-white flowers, turning yellow, followed by large fruits having a flavor similar to that of the gooseberry. This is the handsomest of the Actinidias but is not hardy as far north as New England. Discovered by Robert Fortune in 1849, but not introduced to the Occident until it was found again by Wilson in 1900. It was Wilson who introduced the fruit to the foreign residents in western China. He writes, "The residents have dubbed it 'Wilson's Gooseberry,' " and he will be pleasantly remembered in China by this group when his work has probably been forgotten there.

AESCULUS WILSONI—Horsechestnut, up to 50 feet, with long cylindrical spikes of white flowers. Closely related with *Aesculus chinensis*, with which it is often confused. Introduced from central and western China in 1908.

AMPELOPSIS MICANS—*Vitis flexuosa wilsoni*; *V. repens*—Climbing vine, up to 18 feet. Introduced from central China in 1900.

AMPELOPSIS THOMSONI—See *Parthenocissus thomsoni*.

AMPELOPSIS WATSONIANA—*Vitis leeoides* (Ashleaf Ampelopsis)—Climbing vine similar to *Ampelopsis megalophylla*. Introduced from central China in 1900.



*Salmon-colored fruits of Berberis verna, one of many Barberries introduced by Wilson*



ANEMONE HUPEHENSIS—Perennial which appears to be a low-growing form of *Anemone japonica*, but blooming somewhat earlier. Introduced from central China in 1910.

ANEMONE VITIFOLIA (Grape-Leaf Anemone or Vine-Leaved Anemone)—Perennial up to 3 feet, with white flowers 2 inches wide. More tender than the Japanese Anemone. First discovered in the Himalayas; later reintroduced from China by Wilson.

ARISTOLOCHIA HETEROPHYLLA—Climbing shrub with flowers of the characteristic "Dutchman's Pipe" appearance and very pretty. Introduced from western China in 1904.

ARTEMISIA LACTIFLORA (White Mugwort)—Perennial, up to 4 feet; loose panicles of creamy-white flower heads in August, fragrant. Introduced from China.

ASTILBE DAVIDI (David's Astilbe)—Perennial, up to 6 feet; flowers rose-pink with dark blue anthers, in long narrow panicles up to 2 feet.

ASTILBE GRANDIS (Great Astilbe)—Perennial, up to 6 feet; flowers creamy-white in panicles up to 3 feet.

ASTILBE KOREANA—A perennial up to 2 feet high, with white to pink flower heads which are so heavy that the plant needs staking. Introduced into cultivation from Korea by Wilson in 1917.

AZALEA, KURUME—See *Rhododendron obtusum japonicum*

BERBERIS AGGREGATA PRATTI (Pratt's Barberry)—Cultivated form introduced from China in 1904



and sometimes confused with species introduced earlier and described by Bean.

**BERBERIS ATROCARPA**—Evergreen Barberry up to 6 feet; a very handsome plant, densely branched. The dark green leaves, measuring 3 or more inches long, are often spiny-toothed. The flowers are bright yellow; the fruit black. Introduced from western China in 1909.

**BERBERIS CANDIDULA**—Evergreen shrub up to 2 feet, dense and hemispherical in habit; flowers are bright yellow and fruit oval, covered with a purple bloom. Because of its slow increase in size and its neat, dense habit, it makes a very suitable plant for the rock garden. It was first collected by Farges and raised by M. Maurice de Vilmorin but it was later reintroduced by Wilson for Messrs. Veitch.

**BERBERIS GAGNEPAINI** (Black Barberry)—Shrub, 4 to 6 feet high; flowers bright yellow, followed by black fruits. Introduced from western China in 1904. Quoting Wilson, "With its masses of yellow flowers and fine foliage, this is one of the handsomest of all barberries."

**BERBERIS JULIANAE** (Wintergreen Barberry)—Up to 6 feet; producing yellow flowers followed by bluish black fruit. This is a handsome Barberry, upright in habit, and one of the hardiest evergreen species. Introduced from central China in 1900.

**BERBERIS POLYANTHA**—5 to 6 feet high; flowers clear yellow, fruits oblong, dull salmon-red. Introduced from western China in 1904. Quoting Wilson, "This plant is wonderfully attractive and very unlike in appearance any other known species."

**BERBERIS SARGENTIANA** (Sargent's Barberry)—Evergreen shrub, up to 6 feet, with yellow flowers borne in clusters. The fruit is bluish black. Introduced from central China in 1907 and named for the late director of the Arnold Arboretum.

**BERBERIS TRIACANTHOPHORA** (Threespine Barberry)—Evergreen species, up to 5 feet, bearing blue-black fruit in clusters. Hardy and graceful. One of the prettiest of the evergreen Barberries. Introduced from central China in 1907.

**BERBERIS VERNAE** (Verna Barberry)—Up to 6 feet; flowers yellow in dense racemes; red fruit. Introduced from northwestern China in 1910.

**BERBERIS VERRUCULOSA** (Warty Barberry)—Dwarf growing Barberry, up to 2 feet; semi-prostrate with shiny, prickly, golden yellow flowers and violet-black fruits. Wilson's comments are, "For rockeries and other positions suitable for dwarf shrubs *Berberis verruculosa* is eminently adapted." Introduced from western China in 1904.

**BERBERIS WILSONAE** (Wilson's Barberry)—Shrub, 2 to 3 feet high; very spiny branches; narrow leaves; golden yellow flowers in late July; coral-red, globose berries; brilliant autumnal tints. Excellent for rockeries, edges, borders, etc. Likes sunlight. Introduced from western China in 1903.

**BUDDLEIA ASIATICA** (White Buddleia)—Half hardy shrub, erect in habit, 4 to 6 feet high; flowers 9 to 18 inches long in tail-like racemes, pure white, fragrant. Requires the same culture as *Jasminum primulinum*. Often grown in greenhouses in the North. Introduced from western China in 1908.

BUDDLEIA DAVIDI MAGNIFICA (Summer Lilac or Oxeye Buddleia)—Flowers large, bright, violet-purple with a deep orange eye. Fragrant. Panicles are long and densely flowered. This variety is a conspicuous feature in August by the sides of mountain streams in western China. Wilson considered it the handsomest of all the Buddleias. Hardy with protection. Introduced from central China in 1900.

BUDDLEIA DAVIDI WILSONI (Wilson's Buddleia)—Flowers larger than those of any other variety and of a bright rose-lilac color. It has long, rather laxly flowered pendent panicles. Blooms ten days later than *magnifica*. Introduced from China in 1900.

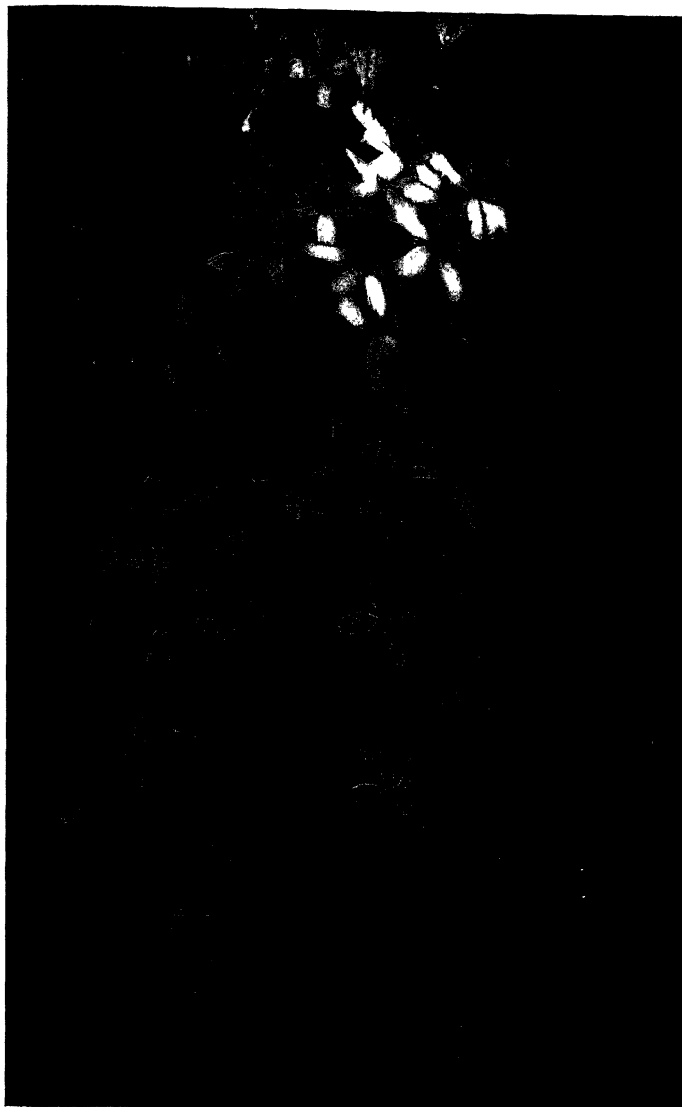
BUXUS MICROPHYLLA KOREANA (Korean Box)—Hardy box, up to 2 feet, but often prostrate; lighter in color than the common box. A promising edging plant for the North. Introduced from Korea in 1919.

CAMELLIA CUSPIDATA—*Thea cuspidata*.

CATALPA FARGESI—Deciduous tree, up to 60 feet, with pink or purplish flowers spotted with brown. Introduced from western China in 1900.

CELASTRUS ANGULATA—*Celastrus latifolius*—Climbing vine, up to 21 feet, which is distinguished most particularly for its large leaves. It bears orange-yellow fruit and has been found both in Japan and China, being introduced by Wilson in 1900. Plants will not fruit unless specimens of both sexes are planted.

CELASTRUS LATIFOLIUS—*Celastrus angulata*.



*The beautiful Clematis montana wilsoni*



CELASTRUS LOESENERI—Vine closely related to *C. articulata*. Introduced from central China in 1907.

CELASTRUS RUGOSA—Vine approaching a height of 18 feet; orange-yellow fruit. Introduced from western China in 1908.

CERCIDIPHYLLUM JAPONICUM SINENSE (Chinese Katsura Tree)—Very large tree attaining to a greater size than any other broad-leaved tree known from the temperate zone of eastern Asia. Wilson found stumps 55 feet in girth. He writes, "These stumps are the relics of the largest broad-leaved trees I have seen anywhere in China. Interspersed with these remains were many specimens of the same tree, 60 to 80 feet tall, 8 to 10 feet in girth, and perfect in outline." This tree is a variety distinct from the well known Japanese species. Wilson collected seeds and a tree is now growing in the Arnold Arboretum where it promises to be entirely hardy. Introduced from central and western China in 1907.

CERCIS RACEMOSA—A handsome Redbud; deciduous and growing up to 30 feet. It has rosy pink flowers in racemes, followed by 4-inch pods. Introduced from central China in 1907.

CITRUS ICHANGENSIS—Small tree with white flowers and lemon-like fruit 3 inches long. Occasionally seen in Florida and other southern states and used as an ornamental. Introduced from southwestern China in 1900.

CLADRASTIS SINENSIS (Chinese Yellow-Wood)—Handsome flowering tree, up to 50 feet high, with white and pink flowers. Introduced from central and western China in 1901.

CLADRASTIS WILSONI—Deciduous tree, up to 45 feet. Similar to the Chinese Yellow-Wood, *Cladrastis sinensis*. It has panicles of white or pinkish flowers. Introduced from central China in 1907.

CLEMATIS ACUTANGULA—Hardy luxuriant climber up to 15 feet, with bell-shaped, lilac-colored flowers. A native of the Himalayas and of China. Introduced from the latter country in 1903.

CLEMATIS ARMANDI (Armand's Clematis)—Evergreen clematis, very early to bloom, with stems often 30 feet long. The flowers are white, changing to pink, slightly fragrant, and from 2 to 2½ inches in diameter. Doubtfully hardy in New England but well adapted to gardens from Philadelphia south and in California. Dr. Wilson counted this among the best climbing plants introduced by him. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

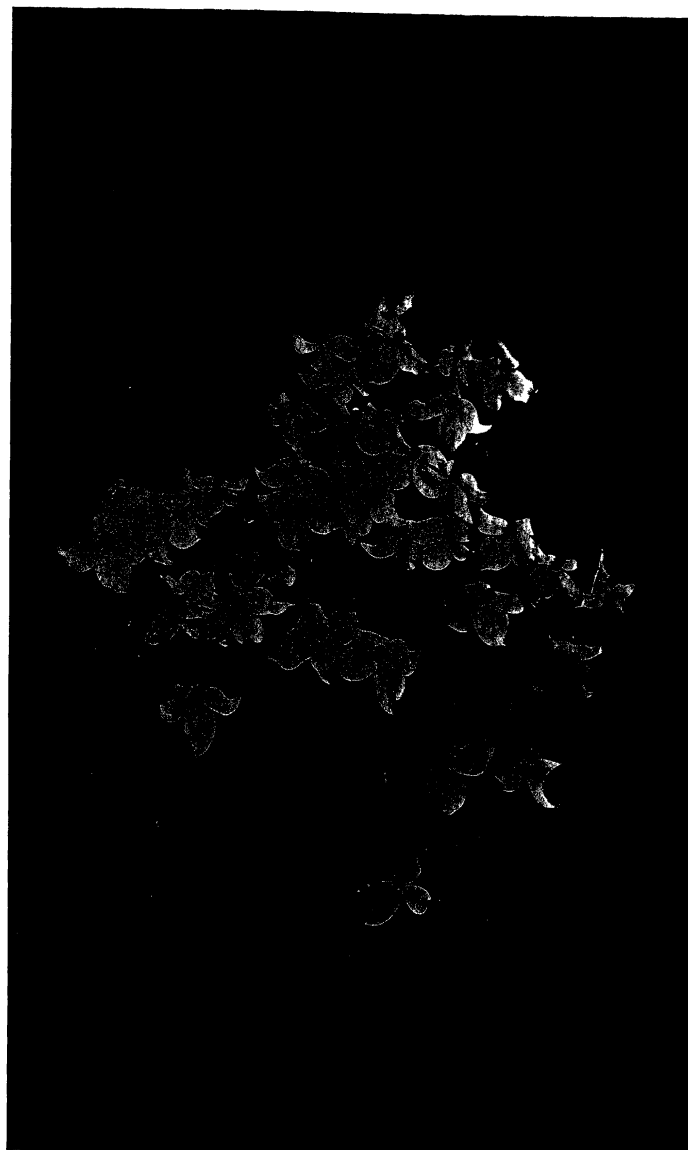
CLEMATIS CHRYSOCOMA SERICEA—*Clematis spooneri*—Form with hairy leaves and pure white flowers 3 to 4 inches across borne on stalks 6 inches long. Introduced from the Chino-Tibetan borderland in 1909.

CLEMATIS MONTANA RUBENS—Climbing shrub, up to 25 feet; flowers rose or pink. Introduced from China in 1900.

CLEMATIS MONTANA WILSONI—Summer-blooming Clematis of which Wilson thought highly. The flowers are white, 2 to 3 inches across. Introduced from China about 1900.

CLEMATIS SPOONERI—*Clematis chrysocoma sericea*.

CORNUS KOUSA CHINENSIS (Chinese Dogwood)—







Similar to *Cornus kousa*, the Japanese Dogwood, but hardier. Snowy white flowers in June. Introduced from China in 1907.

CORYDALIS THALICTRIFOLIA—Perennial; foliage fleshy in texture and resembling the maidenhair fern in shape; flowers large, yellow and borne in erect racemes. Seed should be sown in May under glass. Excellent for basket culture or pots in a cool greenhouse.

CORYDALIS TOMENTELLA—Similar to *Corydalis wilsoni*.

CORYDALIS TOMENTOSA—Similar to *Corydalis wilsoni*.

CORYDALIS WILSONI—Smaller than *Corydalis thalictrifolia*; foliage finely cut; flowers golden yellow in erect racemes. Not hardy but excellent for pot culture. Seeds sown in May will give flowering plants the next winter.

CORYLOPSIS VEITCHIANA (Veitch's Winterhazel)—Shrub, up to 6 feet, with leaves 5 inches long. The flowers are primrose yellow and fragrant. Introduced from central China in 1900.

COTONEASTER ACUTIFOLIA VILLOSULA (Peking Cotoneaster)—Deciduous species of bushy spreading habit, 8 feet high with large glossy green leaves and fruit which turns black. A native of western Hupeh and introduced in 1900.

COTONEASTER APICULATA—Up to 6 feet; bright red fruit. Introduced from western China in 1910.

COTONEASTER DAMMERI—*Cotoneaster humifusa*—Trailing evergreen shrub with oval leaves about 1 inch long; flowers pure white, usually borne

singly; fruit colored bright coral-red. A very useful and distinct cotoneaster. Hardy in New England in protected places. Useful in rock gardens. Introduced from central China in 1900, although found previously by Henry.

COTONEASTER DIELSIANA (Diels' Cotoneaster)—Up to 8 feet; pinkish flowers in clusters; bright red fruit. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

COTONEASTER DIVARICATA (Spreading Cotoneaster)—Up to 6 feet; pinkish flowers in clusters; bright red fruit. Introduced from central and western China in 1907.

COTONEASTER HENRYANA—Deciduous shrub, 6 to 15 feet tall, with arching semi-pendulous branches and pure white flowers, followed in time by bunches of coral-red fruits. The leaves are covered on the under side with a heavy white felt. Introduced from central China in 1901.

COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS PERPUSILLA—Handsome shrub, prostrate in habit. The bright red fruit is small and numerous and the leaves turn partly red and orange in late autumn. Introduced from western China in 1908.

COTONEASTER HUPEHENSIS (Hupeh Cotoneaster)—Up to 6 feet; arching branches; white flowers in clusters, followed by bright red fruit. This species has a weak habit and often dies without apparent cause. Introduced from central and western China in 1907.

COTONEASTER RACEMIFLORA SOONGARICA—Up to 8 feet; flowers white in clusters, followed by red fruit. Introduced from western China in 1910.

- COTONEASTER SALICIFOLIA FLOCCOSA—Attractive evergreen shrub up to 12 feet high. Introduced by Wilson from western China in 1908. Recommended for the beauty of its bright red fruit.
- COTONEASTER SALICIFOLIA RUGOSA—Shrub, 6 to 15 feet high; arching branches; pure white flowers, followed in the autumn by bunches of bright coral-red fruits. Introduced from central China in 1907.
- CUNNINGHAMIA KONISHII (The China Fir)—Evergreen from Formosa, up to 100 feet. Not hardy in the north but should thrive in lower California. Introduced in 1918.
- CYPRIPEDIUM LUTEUM—A yellow-flowered counterpart of the North American Moccasin Flower, *Cypripedium spectabile*. Wilson introduced live roots of this Orchid to the Arnold Arboretum. Very abundant in western China, where Wilson discovered it in 1910.
- CYPRIPEDIUM TIBETICUM—This Tibetan Ladyslipper Orchid is very dwarf but produces huge dark red flowers. Introduced from central China in 1904.
- DAPHNE RETUSA—Dwarf shrub, 1 foot high; flowers pink and fragrant; very hardy. Introduced from western China in 1901.
- DAVIDIA INVOLUCRATA (The Dove Tree)—50 to 60 feet high; flowers without petals but having two unequal, creamy white, drooping bracts; the larger 6 inches long; in May or June. Fruits are a green drupe  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. Barely hardy in Boston. Introduced from western China in 1904.
- DEUTZIA LONGIFOLIA ELEGANS—Handsome shrub, about 4 feet high, with rosy purple flowers. Not

hardy enough to be grown successfully in the northern part of the United States. Introduced from western China in 1908.

DEUTZIA LONGIFOLIA VEITCHI—Specimens of *Deutzia longifolia* were collected and dried by Pere David long before Wilson had visited China, but the plant had not been introduced into cultivation. Wilson chose the best colors and largest form and gave it the variety name of *veitchi*, acclaiming it the most beautiful of all Deutzias. The flowers are rosy purple to crimson-pink, varying greatly. It grows from 4 to 6 feet high. Not very hardy. Introduced from western China in 1903.

DEUTZIA WILSONI—White flowered shrub of vigorous growth and having unusually large leaves. Fairly hardy in the Arnold Arboretum. It was discovered in western China and introduced about 1901.

DICENTRA MACRANTHA—Perennial; large, pale yellow, pendulous flowers in clusters. Wilson liked this plant very much.

DIPELTA FLORIBUNDA (Rosy Dipelta)—Shrub, 5 to 10 feet high; rose-pink flowers resembling those of *Diervilla*. Introduced from central China in 1902.

DIPELTA VENTRICOSA—Shrub, up to 18 feet. Similar to *Dipelta floribunda*. Introduced from western China in 1904.

DIPTERONIA SINENSIS—Small bushy tree with erect trusses of small white flowers. It has distinctly ornamental foliage and unusual fruit. Introduced from central China in 1900.

EUPTELEA FRANCHETI—Tree up to 40 feet high. First discovered by David in western China but introduced by Wilson from Hupeh in 1900.

EVONYMUS AQUIFOLIUM—Deciduous shrub growing up to 9 feet high. It is marked in character because of its Holly-like leaves. Unfortunately, it grows very slowly. Introduced from western China in 1908.

EVONYMUS SANGUINEA—Small deciduous tree growing up to 21 feet. The fruit is red with orange-colored seeds. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

EVONYMUS WILSONI—Deciduous shrub growing up to 20 feet, with yellowish flowers. Introduced from western China in 1904.

EVODIA HENRYI—Small tree, up to 25 feet; large pinnate leaves, often becoming 12 inches long; flowers pinkish white; seed pods reddish brown. Introduced from Hupeh in 1908.

EVODIA HUPEHENSIS—Closely related to *E. henryi*; flowers borne in broad panicles; seed pods pubescent. Introduced from central China in 1907.

EXOCHORDA GIRALDI WILSONI (Wilson's Pearlbush)—Up to 15 feet high; white flowers up to 2 inches across. A particularly good shrub for the North. Introduced from central China in 1907.

FAGUS ENGLERIANA—Beech tree, up to 70 feet or more, usually with 6 to 12 trunks averaging 2 to 5 feet in girth, arising closely together and slanting away from one another as they grow. The bark is light gray. Introduced from central China in 1911.

FAGUS LONGIPETIOLATA—Tall tree usually with a

single trunk but often dividing near the base into several stems. Introduced from central and western China in 1911.

FAGUS LUCIDA—Beech tree growing with a single trunk. Mentioned several times by Wilson but with no description. Introduced in 1911.

FORSYTHIA OVATA—A shrub from the Diamond Mountains in Korea; spreading in habit, with small, pale yellow flowers and larger leaves than those of any other Golden Bells. The hardiest of all the Forsythias and recommended by Wilson for regions where the ordinary Forsythia cannot be grown. Previously known but introduced into cultivation by Wilson in 1917.

FORTUNEARIA SINENSIS—Shrub or small tree, up to 21 feet. It has large leaves, inconspicuous flowers and is of no special garden value. Introduced from central China in 1907.

GAULTHERIA VEITCHIANA—Attractive shrub, up to 3 feet. It has conspicuous and handsome blue fruit, making it ornamental in the autumn. Introduced from western China in 1908.

HANABUSAYA ASIATICA—A slender herb 10 to 18 inches high, with flowers as large as those of a Platycodon. Previously known but introduced to cultivation from Korea by Wilson in 1917.

HYDRANGEA SARGENTIANA—Shrub, 5 or 6 feet high. The foliage is particularly handsome, being dark green with a velvety luster. The flowers are pale violet in heads 6 inches across, coming in July and August. Introduced from central China in 1907.

HYDRANGEA XANTHONEURA WILSONI (Wilson's Hydrangea)—Variety differing but little from the

type and from several other varieties, the separation of which is difficult. Introduced from western China in 1909.

ILEX PERNYI—Shrub, 5 to 10 feet high; evergreen; prickly leaves; scarlet fruits. Introduced from central and western China in 1900. Wilson writes, "Neither man nor beast could face a hedge made of this species."

ILEX PERNYI MANIPURENSIS—*Ilex wilsoni*—Variety of *Ilex pernyi* and a compact ornamental shrub. Introduced from western China in 1913.

ILEX WILSONI—*Ilex pernyi manipurensis*.

INDIGOFERA AMBLYANTHA (Pink Indigo)—Shrub, up to 6 feet, with pale lilac-purple flowers in long dense racemes. Introduced from China in 1908.

IRIS WILSONI (Wilson's Iris)—Rhizomatus Iris about 2 feet high, with small, clear yellow flowers having a copious veining of purple on the lower half of the falls. Delights in a moist loamy soil, is not averse to partial shade and, according to Wilson, is well suited for the planting beside water. Introduced from China.

JASMINUM PRIMULINUM (Primrose Jasmine)—Bushy, 4 to 6 feet high; flowers produced from the axils of the leaves, yellow, semi-double, size of a silver dollar. An easily grown, winter-flowering shrub in the North, hardy in warm sections. Introduced from western China in 1900. Widely cultivated in Australia.

JUGLANS CATHAYENSIS (Chinese Walnut)—Tall tree with large, typical foliage and black fruits at the end of a long stalk. Not reliably hardy in the Arnold Arboretum. Introduced in 1903.



JUNIPERUS CONFERTA—*Juniperus littoralis* (Shore Juniper)—Trailing evergreen with bluish green needles; the black fruit has an attractive bloom. Introduced to America from Japan in 1915.

KOLKOWITZIA AMABILIS (Beauty Bush)—Shrub, 6 to 8 feet high; tubular flowers, pink, yellow in the throat. Very ornamental. Introduced from China in 1901. One of Wilson's favorite shrubs.

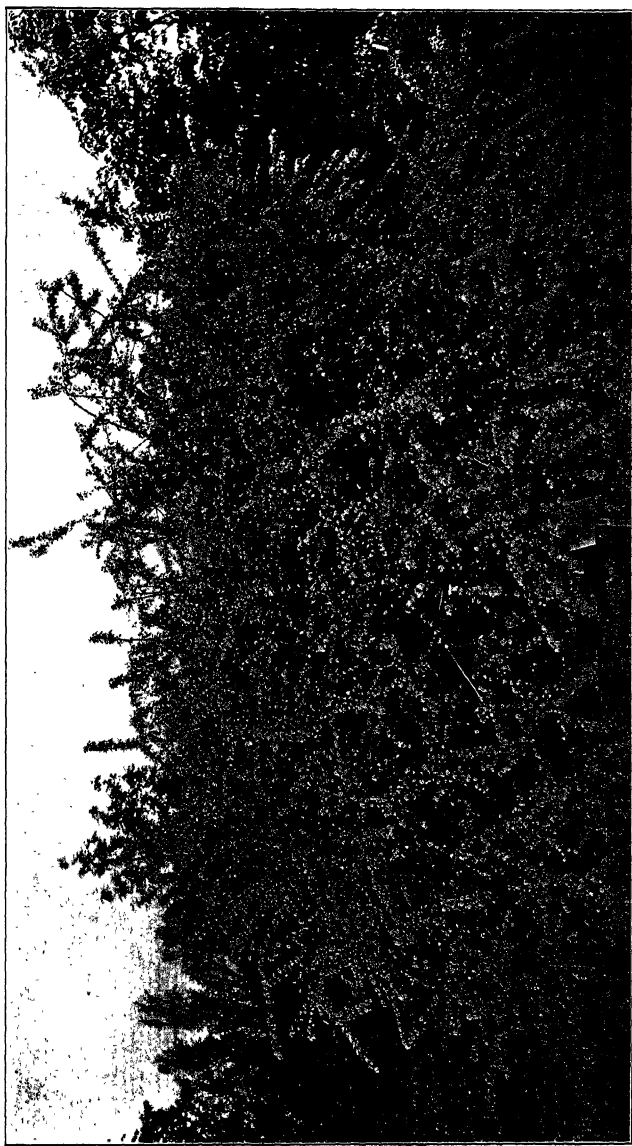
LIGULARIA CLIVORUM—*Senecio clivorum*—Perennial, up to 4 feet; flowers in heads sometimes 4 inches across, rays orange-yellow, disk dark brown. Propagated by cuttings or divisions. China and Japan.

LIGULARIA VEITCHIANA—*Senecio veitchianus*—Tall perennial with dark green leaves a foot or more across and erect spikes of flowers 5 feet high. The flowers are clear yellow, in heads 2½ inches across. A valuable garden plant easily raised from seed and growing rapidly. Introduced from western China in 1905.

LIGULARIA WILSONIANA—*Senecio wilsonianus* (Giant Groundsel)—Up to 5 feet; leaves sometimes 20 inches long; flowers yellow in elongated spikes 1 inch across.

LIGUSTRUM HENRYI (Henry's Privet)—Neat evergreen shrub up to 6 feet high, with white, scented flowers and black fruit. Not for northern gardens. Discovered by Henry but introduced by Wilson in 1901.

LILIUM DAVIDI—*Lilium thayerae* (Mrs. Thayer's Lily)—Up to 6 feet; flowers red or scarlet spotted with black. Rediscovered in western China in 1910.



*Kolkwitzia amabilis*, introduced from the heart of China, is one of the most charming shrubs ever brought to America



LILIUM HENRYI (Henry's Lily)—Sometimes ascribed to Wilson although not really introduced by him. He was the medium through which it first became known to cultivation. This Lily is too well known to need description.

LILIUM LEUCANTHUM CHLORASTER—A species distinguished by its yellow-brown, flattened, round bulb and by the wide expanding tube of its funnel-shaped flowers, yellow within and greenish or creamy white without. It differs from the type by its more narrow leaves and the spreading character of its flowers. This Lily was first discovered by Augustine Henry who sent bulbs to England in 1889. The stock was lost, however, and reintroduced by Wilson in 1901. More recently it has been raised from seeds collected by the late Reginald Farrer and may now be found in several English gardens. It is a stem-rooting Lily and is common in northwestern China at a high altitude. Formerly confused with *Lilium browni*.

LILIUM PHILIPPINENSE FORMOSANUM—Discovered by Charles Wilford in 1858 but not collected. Introduced into gardens by Wilson in 1918.

LILIUM REGALE (Regal Lily)—4 feet high; large tubular flowers, white flecked with pink on the outside, yellow throat. Introduced from western China in 1910. Probably the best known of Wilson's introductions.

LILIUM SARGENTIAE (Sargent's Lily)—Up to 6 feet tall; flowers rose-pink outside, white within, 3 to 6 inches across, fragrant. Introduced from western China in 1910.

LILIUM SPECIOSUM GLORIOSOIDES—A reflexed Lily; flowers white but spotted with scarlet and with a red stripe down the center of each segment. Native to eastern central China and Formosa. Previously discovered but introduced into gardens from Formosa by Wilson in 1918.

LILIUM THAYERAE—See *Lilium davidi*.

LILIUM WARLEYENSE—See *Lilium willmottiae*.

LILIUM WILLMOTTIAE—*Lilium warleyense* (Miss Willmott's Lily)—Up to 5 feet; flowers orange-red spotted with brown, 2 to 3 inches across, drooping. Introduced from western China in 1910.

LIRIODENDRON CHINENSE—A Chinese form of the Tulip-tree but much smaller than *Liriodendron tulipifera* and with small flowers. Introduced from central China in 1901.

LONICERA CHAETOCARPA—Shrub, up to 6 feet; flowers pale yellow and tubular, followed by orange-red fruits. Introduced from western China in 1904.

LONICERA HENRYI (Henry's Honeysuckle)—An evergreen climbing Honeysuckle that is hardy as far north as New England. It has reddish flowers and black fruits. Wilson recommended it as a tangle for covering barns or as a screen for walls and fences. Introduced from western China in 1908.

LONICERA MAACKI PODOCARPA (Late Honeysuckle)—8 to 12 feet high; white flowers from the axils of the leaves. Introduced from western and central China in 1900.



*Lonicera nitida*, a Honeysuckle discovered by Wilson and now being used in Europe as a hedge plant



LONICERA NITIDA—An evergreen Honeysuckle, up to 6 feet; leaves shiny; flowers creamy white, fragrant, in pairs; fruit blue-purple and transparent. Largely used in Europe as a hedge plant and finding favor in the South for that purpose. Not reliably hardy north of Philadelphia. Introduced from western China in 1908.

LONICERA PILEATA (Privet Honeysuckle)—Low spreading evergreen up to 2 feet high, with yellowish white flowers and attractive fruits. Barely hardy in Massachusetts. Discovered by Henry but introduced by Wilson in 1900.

LONICERA PROSTRATA (Creeping Honeysuckle)—Dwarf; pale yellow flowers. Indicated for rock gardens. Introduced from western China in 1904.

LONICERA TRAGOPHYLLA (Climbing Honeysuckle)—Flowers bright yellow, borne in June and followed by red fruit. Introduced from western China about 1900. Wilson writes, "Planted in a partially shaded place and trained to a stout pole, or better still set at the foot of a deciduous tree and let ramble at will, this species presents a beautiful sight when in flower."

MAGNOLIA DELAVAYI—An evergreen species closely related to *Magnolia grandiflora*. Grows to a height of 30 feet. Introduced from China in 1900.

MAGNOLIA WILSONI (Wilson's Magnolia)—Shrub or small tree; flowers cup-shaped, white, fragrant. Introduced from western China in 1908. Distinct and handsome. Common in Europe.

MALUS THEIFERA (Tea Crab)—Small, stiff-branched tree; flowers white or blush in great profusion. One of the best Crabapples. Wilson was



very fond of this Crab and recommended it highly. Introduced from China in 1900.

MALUS TORINGOIDES (Cutleaf Crab)—Tree, up to 25 feet; flowers creamy white, up to 1 inch in diameter followed by pink fruit. A good hardy variety for the North. Introduced from western China in 1904. Wilson thought it one of the finest of the Oriental Crabapples.

MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA (Yellow Chinese Poppywort)—Up to 3 feet; flowers yellow, 3 to 6 inches across. Introduced from western China in 1906.

MECONOPSIS PUNICEA (Red Poppywort)—Described by Wilson as "a lovely species having large, dark scarlet, nodding flowers." It was flowered in England in 1905 but did not take kindly to cultivation and the original stock with its descendants has been lost to gardens. Introduced from north-western Szechuan, China, in 1903.

MELIOSMA BEANIANA—A handsome tree, up to 60 feet high and 12 feet in girth. Wilson reported trees in China with heads fully 80 feet in diameter. It bears small pea-like purple fruits. No member of this family was in cultivation previous to Wilson's explorations. Introduced from Central China in 1908.

MELIOSMA VEITCHIORUM—Similar to *Meliosma beaniana*, with pinnate leaves which produce excellent shade. For several years a specimen of this tree has been flourishing just within the main entrance to Kew Gardens in England. Introduced from central China in 1901.

NEILLIA SINENSIS (Tube Neillia)—Up to 6 feet;





pink tubular flowers in nodding racemes in May or June. Introduced from central China in 1901.

**PARTHENOCISSUS THOMSONI**—*Ampelopsis thomsoni* (Thomson's Creeper)—Climbing vine similar to *Parthenocissus henryana*. A small-growing species 6 to 8 feet high, the foliage of which changes to lovely shades of reddish purple in the autumn. Introduced from central China in 1900.

**PHILADELPHUS PURPURASCENS** (Purplecup Mock-orange)—Up to 12 feet; pure white flowers 1 inch across with purple calyx, very fragrant. Introduced from western China in 1904.

**PHILADELPHUS SUBCANUS WILSONI**—Up to 10 feet; white flowers 1 inch across.

**PHOTINIA DAVIDSONIAE**—An evergreen tree, up to 45 feet. Most conspicuous for its large lustrous foliage. It has white flowers in spring, followed late in autumn by red fruit. It is closely related to *Photinia serrulata*. Introduced from central China in 1900.

**PICEA ASCENDENS**—A handsome flat-leaved Spruce with pendulous branches. Much esteemed in China as a timber tree. Introduced from western China in 1910.

**PICEA ASPERATA**—A Spruce tree with long dark green leaves and 4-inch cones. Hardy in the North. Introduced from western China in 1910.

**PICEA KOYAMIA**—Handsome Spruce growing in pyramid form to a height of 60 feet. Hardy in New England. A native of Japan and Korea. Introduced from the latter country in 1914.

**PICEA WILSONI**—A pyramidal tree, up to 75 feet,

spicuous by their golden brown undersurface. Wilson said that this Oak is almost as beautiful as the celebrated Golden Oak of California, *Castanopsis chrysophylla*. Introduced from the Chino-Tibetan borderland about 1910.

REHMANNIA ANGULATA—A perennial about 6 feet high carrying 6 to 12 large rosy pink Foxglove-like flowers. Wilson said that the local name was Honeybee-flower. Introduced from northwestern Hupeh, China, about 1910. Much used in England for greenhouse work.

REHMANNIA HENRYI—Biennial, 9 inches to 1 foot high; flowers pure white, with a touch of yellow in the throat.

RHEUM ALEXANDRAE—A very showy perennial, up to 4 feet; the inflorescence consisting of pale yellow bracts which overlap one another like tiles on a house-roof. Wilson said that the local name was Horse Rhubarb and that it prefers rich boggy ground. The shining dark green leaves are a foot or more long. The plant is fond of partial shade and barnyard manure. It is easily raised from seeds but requires several years to develop strong-flowering crowns. Introduced from the Chino-Tibetan borderland about 1903.

RHODODENDRON AMBIGUUM—Evergreen shrub up to 6 feet, bushy in habit. Pale yellow flowers are produced in terminal trusses of five or six blossoms. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON AMESIAE—Small shrub, with handsome, rich purple-red flowers. Found locally in western China. Named for Mary Shreve Ames of North Easton, Mass. Introduced in 1908.

RHODODENDRON ARGYROPHYLLUM—6 to 20 feet high; long leaves, bright green above, white beneath; flowers rose pink, 6 to 10 in a cluster. This species is being grown in England. Discovered by the Abbe David, but introduced by Wilson from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON CALOPHYTUM (Bigleaf Rhododendron)—Closely related to *Rhododendron discolor* and in its native habitat makes a tree up to 40 feet. The flowers are white or rose-colored with a dark blotch, and bell-shaped about 2 inches across. Introduced from western China about 1904.

RHODODENDRON CONCINNUM—Evergreen shrub up to 6 feet; flowers purple, spotted on the upper side with brownish purple. Discovered by the Rev. Ernest Faber on Mt. Omi in 1886 but introduced by Wilson for Messrs. Veitch in 1904.

RHODODENDRON DISCOLOR—Shrub, 8 feet high; flowers white to pale pink. Introduced from central China in 1900. Common in Europe.

RHODODENDRON FARGESI—Evergreen, up to 15 feet high; leaves 2 to 3 inches long; flowers white or pink bell-shaped, 2 inches across; in May. Introduced from central China in 1901.

RHODODENDRON FLAVIDUM—*Rhododendron primulinum*—3 to 6 feet high; yellow flowers. Introduced from western China in 1905.

RHODODENDRON HUNNEWELLIANUM—6 to 16 feet high; flowers large, white, tinted pink, but deeper in the bud. Named for the late H. H. Hunnewell of Wellesley, Mass. Introduced from western China in 1908.

RHODODENDRON INTRICATUM—*Rhododendron nigropunctatum* (Bluet Rhododendron)—2 to 3 feet high; lavender-pink flowers. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON KEISKEI—Evergreen shrub up to 9 feet, or sometimes procumbent; flowers are pale yellow. Introduced from Japan in 1905.

RHODODENDRON LUTESCENS—Up to 6 feet; flowers pale yellow. Not very hardy but an excellent plant for the milder climates. Curiously enough, Wilson's later introductions of this species seem hardier than the first. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON MICRANTHUM—Evergreen shrub up to 6 feet high, bushy in form, with dull white flowers. Introduced from western Hupeh in 1901.

RHODODENDRON MORI—A shrub or tree up to 25 feet; flowers white or white suffused rose. Previously discovered in Formosa but introduced into gardens by Wilson in 1918.

RHODODENDRON NIGROPUNCTATUM—See *Rhododendron intricatum*.

RHODODENDRON OBTUSUM JAPONICUM (Kurume Azalea)—Exceedingly handsome Azalea from Japan. Introduced to the eastern United States through Dr. Wilson. A few plants were previously shown on one occasion on the west coast but were lost. Hardy in the South but grown as greenhouse subjects in the North. In general commerce. Introduced from Japan in 1917.

RHODODENDRON OLDHAMI—Much-branched shrub to 10 feet tall; flowers red. Previously discovered

in Formosa but introduced into cultivation by Wilson in 1918.

RHODODENDRON ORBICULARE—A species closely related to *Rhododendron fortunei*, with rosy red flowers. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON POLYLEPIS—Evergreen shrub about 6 feet; the flowers are pale purple spotted with yellow on the upper side. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RHODODENDRON PRIMULINUM—See *Rhododendron flavidum*.

RHODODENDRON PSEUDOCHRYSANTHUM—A bush up to 9 feet high; flowers pink with deeper rose lines outside along the petal ridges. Previously discovered in Formosa but introduced into cultivation by Wilson in 1918.

RHODODENDRON RUBROPILOSUM—Upright twiggy shrub to 10 feet, with rigid ascending branches; flowers pink spotted with rose. Previously discovered in Formosa but introduced into gardens by Wilson in 1918.

RHODODENDRON SARGENTIANUM—About 2 feet high, with leaves only  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch long; flowers small and lemon-yellow. Wilson found this species growing on exposed rocks in western Szechuan in 1904. Named for the late Professor Charles S. Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum.

RHODODENDRON SOULIEI—3 to 6 feet high; flowers rosy pink. Introduced from western China in 1905.

RHODODENDRON THAYERIANUM—9 to 13 feet high, with heavy branches and thick leathery leaves. Remarkably distinct, although resembling *R. lon-*



*gipes*. Flowers funnel shape and white, tinged pink or deeply flushed on the outside without any spots. Named for the Thayer family of Lancaster, Mass. Introduced from western China in 1910.

RHODODENDRON WEBSTERIANUM—1 to 3 feet high, with small narrow leaves; rosy purple flowers, usually borne singly. Named for Frank G. Webster of Boston. Introduced from western China in 1908.

RHODODENDRON WELDIANUM—6 to 14 feet high, closely allied to *R. rufum*. Six to 12 flowers are borne in a raceme. Named for the late General Stephen Minot Weld, at one time president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Introduced from western China in 1910.

RHODODENDRON WEYRICHI—Azalea from southern Korea, somewhat similar in habit to *R. schlippenbachii*, with salmon-red flowers. Makes a tree-like bush 15 feet tall. Not hardy in the Arnold Arboretum, but growing in several English gardens from seeds collected by Wilson in 1918.

RHODODENDRON WILLIAMSIANUM—Up to 5 feet; flowers large and clear pink. Introduced from western China in 1908.

RHODODENDRON WILLMOTTIAE—6 to 8 feet high; flowers small, solitary, rosy pink. Introduced from western China in 1904.

RIBES LONGERACEMOSUM—A black currant with racemes of flowers 15 to 18 inches long; fruits jet black. Introduced from western China in 1908.

RODGERSIA AESCULIFOLIA—Perennial with large erect panicles of white, showy flowers, each from

1 foot to 18 inches long and borne well above the foliage on spikes from 3 to 5 feet high. The flowers are fragrant and resemble those of the Buckeye. Easily raised from seed but slow in growth.

RODGERSIA SAMBUCIFOLIA—Perennial, up to 3 feet, with small white flowers in flat-topped panicles. Introduced from China.

RODGERSIA TABULARIS—Perennial, up to 3 feet, with small white flowers in panicles. Introduced from China.

ROSA BELLA (Solitary Rose)—Up to 10 feet; single flowers, rose-colored, 2 inches across. Introduced from northern China in 1910.

ROSA HELENÆ (Helen's Rose)—Named for Dr. Wilson's wife. Flowers single, white, fragrant; fruits scarlet. A musk Rose. Introduced from central China in 1907.

ROSA MOYESI (Moyes' Rose)—8 to 10 feet high; flowers flat, 3 inches across, rich deep red. Introduced from western China in 1903.

ROSA OMEIENSIS (Mt. Omi Rose)—Shrub to 12 feet that closely resembles *R. sericea*, although the fruit is of a distinct color, being bright red, and pear shaped. Single white flowers about an inch across. Rev. E. Faber discovered this Rose on Mt. Omi in Szechuan about 1886 but it was not introduced until 1901 and then by Wilson.

ROSA WILLMOTTIAE—The Chinese Rose species, forming a bush 6 to 8 feet tall with arching stems, rather small leaves and straight straw-colored prickles. The flowers are small and solitary and of a pleasing rosy pink color. It was named as a com-

- pliment to a famous lover of the Rose, Miss Ellen Willmott. Introduced from western China in 1904.
- RUBUS CORCHORIFOLIUS—A bramble with vinous-flavored red raspberry-like fruits; edible. Found both in Japan and China. Introduced in 1907.
- RUBUS COREANUS (Korean Raspberry)—Bears small red or black fruit. Found in Korea, Japan and China in cultivation. Introduced in 1906.
- RUBUS HENRYI—Climbing evergreen bramble, up to 18 feet: small black fruit. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.
- RUBUS HENRYI BAMBUSARUM—A variety of the above. Introduced from central China in 1900.
- RUBUS INNOMINATUS—Bramble, up to 10 feet; orange-red fruit which is edible. Sometimes grown for its ornamental value. (The Van Fleet Raspberry recently hybridized in America is a cross between *Rubus innominatus* and the common Cuthbert.) Introduced from central and western China in 1901.
- RUBUS IRENAEUS—An evergreen bramble with a prostrate habit, bearing large red fruit. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.
- RUBUS PLAYFAIRI — Evergreen or semi-evergreen shrub, with flowers  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter; fruit resembles a raspberry but is black. A very graceful shrub when properly trained. Introduced from western China in 1907.
- RUBUS POLYTRICHUS—See *Rubus tricolor*.
- RUBUS TRICOLOR—*Rubus polytrichus*—Deciduous bramble with red edible fruit. Introduced from western China in 1908.

RUBUS WILSONI—Deciduous bramble closely related to *Rubus coreanus*. Introduced from central China in 1901.

SALIX BOCKI—Dwarf Willow with neat dark green foliage, blue-white beneath. Very distinct because its catkins are produced in late summer and autumn upon the current year's growth. Promises to be one of the most attractive dwarf Willows. Introduced to the Arnold Arboretum by Wilson in 1908.

SALIX MAGNIFICA—Shrub or small tree growing up to 18 feet with leaves 8 inches long and 5 inches wide, and catkins 1 foot or more long. Wilson writes, "Except when in flower or fruit, this tree would scarcely be taken for a willow. It is a magnificent foliage plant." The leaves suggest the Yulan Magnolia. First discovered in western China in 1903 and introduced in 1908 as living plants.

SAMBUCUS SCHWERINIANA—Sub-shrubby Elder from 3 to 5 feet high, with great masses of salmon-red fruits which are highly ornamental. Likes open moist places. Introduced from western China in 1910.

SARCOCOCCA HUMILIS—Neat evergreen shrub, 1 to 1 ½ feet high; habit tufted like a butcher's broom; leaves glossy green; fragrant white flowers normally appear in early spring although the plants often bloom in autumn; fruit small and blue-black. Introduced from western China in 1907.

SARCOCOCCA RUSCIFOLIA—Evergreen shrub up to 2 feet; white and fragrant flowers are produced in late fall or early spring. Its dark shiny leaves make it attractive, and it will thrive under trees. First

discovered by Henry in western China but introduced by Wilson in 1901.

SARGENTODOXA CUNEATA—Deciduous shrub climbing up to 20 feet or more, with greenish yellow fragrant flowers in pendulous racemes. The flowers are distinctly ornamental and the plant makes vigorous growth. Introduced from central and eastern China in 1907, and named for Professor Charles S. Sargent.

SCHIZOPHRAGMA INTEGRIFOLIA (Chinese Hydrangea-vine)—Shrub, 5 to 8 feet high; flowers white in bracts; sun loving. Introduced from central and western China in 1901. The only Chinese species which has been named. It grows much like the common ivy, making erect branches after creeping for a year or two. Wilson writes, "Extremely ornamental and easily grown."

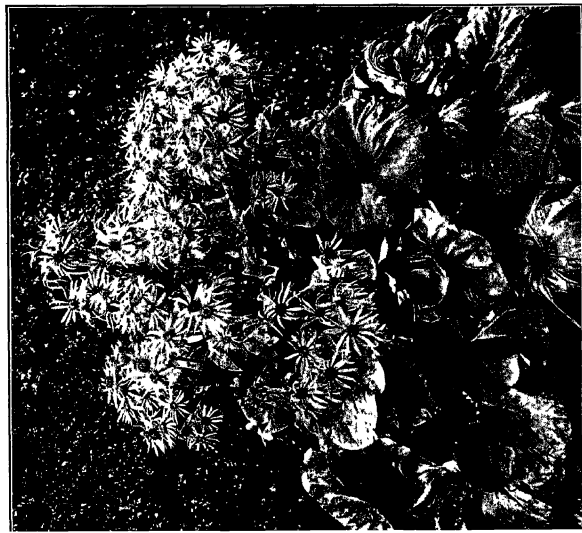
SENECIO CLIVORUM—See *Ligularia clivorum*.

SENECIO TANGUTICUS (Chinese Groundsel)—Perennial, 4 to 5 feet high, with clear yellow flowers borne in panicles of 8 inches to 1 foot high. The individual flowers are small but the whole plant suggests a glorified Goldenrod. Quoting Wilson: "*Senecio tanguticus* is apt to make itself too much at home and must be watched or it will usurp the whole waterside or border." Easily raised from seeds. Introduced from western China in 1905.

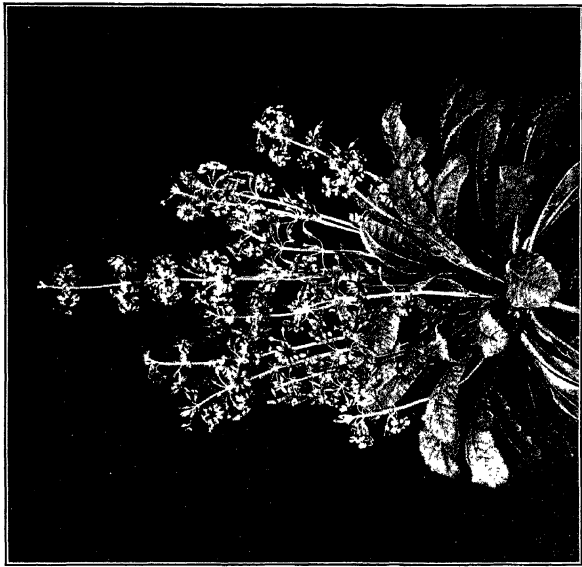
SENECIO VEITCHIANUS—See *Ligularia veitchiana*.

SENECIO WILSONIANUS—See *Ligularia wilsoniana*.

SINOFRANCHETIA CHINENSIS—Twining shrub, climbing to 25 feet, with whitish flowers and lavender-purple fruits, the fruits being the most



*Senecio clivorum* has aster-like flowers, three to five inches in diameter, of a rich golden yellow shade. It is especially adapted for waterside planting



*Primula pulverulenta* has flower scapes fully a yard tall, bearing about ten whorls of rich crimson flowers. The plant naturalizes itself in gardens



ornamental feature. Introduced from central and western China in 1907.

SINOWILSONIA HENRYI—Small bushy tree with handsome foliage and long pendulous racemes of inconspicuous flowers. The leaves resemble those of the Linden and make the tree attractive. Introduced from central and western China in 1908.

SOPHORA WILSONI—Shrub, up to 4 feet, with pale yellow flowers. Probably not hardy in cold sections. Introduced from western China in 1908.

SORBARIA ARBOREA (Tree Spiraea)—Vigorous shrub, up to 20 feet high and as wide, bearing in profusion much-branched arching panicles often 2 feet long of pure white flowers. Inclined to spread. A first rate large shrub sometimes called the Tree Spiraea. Introduced from central and western China in 1908.

SORBUS SARGENTIANA—Mountain Ash from western China closely related to *Sorbus pohuashanensis*. Introduced in 1908.

SPIRAEA HENRYI (Henry's Spiraea)—Up to 8 feet; flowers white, in June. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

SPIRAEA MOLLIFOLIA—Deciduous shrub up to 6 feet, with small white flowers. Introduced from western China in 1909.

SPIRAEA SARGENTIANA—Handsome shrub, up to 4 feet, with creamy white flowers, smaller than those of *Spiraea henryi*. Has proved hardy in the Arnold Arboretum. Introduced from western China in 1909.



*SPIRAEA TRICHOCARPA* (Korean Bridal Wreath)—Shrub up to 6 feet; flowers white, in June. Now being freely planted in American gardens. Introduced from Korea in 1919.

*SPIRAEA VEITCHI* (Veitch's *Spiraea*)—Shrub, up to 12 feet; flowers white, in June and July. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

*SPIRAEA WILSONI* (Wilson's *Spiraea*)—Shrub, up to 8 feet, with white flowers in dense corymbs. Introduced from central and western China in 1900.

*STAPHYLEA HOLOCARPA* (Chinese Bladdernut)—Shrub, 10 to 20 feet tall; flowers white or pale pink, fragrant, borne profusely in May before the leaves. Introduced from central China in 1908. Probably hardy. Wilson writes, "I regard *Staphylea holocarpa* as one of the very finest plants I have been privileged to introduce into cultivation."

*STEWARTIA KOREANA*—A small tree up to 45 feet; large white flowers; has proved hardy in the Arnold Arboretum, where it first flowered in 1928. Introduced to the west from Korea in 1917.

*STRANVAESIA DAVIDIANA UNDULATA*—Shrub, 6 to 12 feet high, smooth leaves which assume brilliant tints in the autumn; pure white flowers in corymbs 4 to 6 inches across; coral-red fruit. Introduced from western and central China in 1901. Quoting Wilson: "With its masses of ornamental flowers and fruits and fine autumnal tints *Stranvaesia undulata* is more than ordinarily attractive and useful."

*STYRAX HEMSLEYANUM*—Deciduous tree up to 20 feet, with pure white flowers. Unusually handsome



Wilson's *Sorbaria amurensis*, a strong-growing shrub best adapted to *larrea acutata*

when in flower and striking because of its leaves which are from 3 to 6 inches long. Introduced from central China in 1900.

STYRAX WILSONI (Chinese Snowbell)—Shrub, up to 10 feet. Blooms when very small but is not hardy in the northern part of the United States. Introduced from western China in 1908.

SYCOPSIS SINENSIS—Evergreen shrub or small tree, up to 21 feet, with small flowers surrounded by brown bracts. The flowers are not conspicuous but the plant makes an ornamental shrub valuable for its small evergreen leaves. Introduced from central and western China in 1907.

SYRINGA DILATATA—A Lilac closely related to *S. affinis* of northern China, with fragrant, pale lilac-colored blossoms. Introduced from Korea in 1917 and considered by Wilson of much value.

SYRINGA JULIANAE (Juliana's Lilac)—Chinese Lilac, up to 6 feet; flowers violet colored, fragrant; blooms early. Introduced from western China in 1900.

SYRINGA PINNATIFOLIA (Pinnate Lilac)—Deciduous shrub to 8 feet high; plant habit is excellent being bushy; leaves are pinnate, having as many as 11 leaflets; flowers are nearly white in panicles, at the most 3 inches long. Introduced from western China in 1904.

SYRINGA REFLEXA (Nodding Lilac)—Up to 12 feet, flowers pinkish white inside. The only Lilac having pendent or drooping flower clusters. Introduced from central China in 1904.

SYRINGA VELUTINA—A very fragrant Lilac, with pale lilac to white flowers. In cultivation in Korea

but introduced to Europe and America in 1917 and now growing in the Arnold Arboretum.

TAIWANIA CRYPTOMERIOIDES—Tall evergreen tree allied to the Cryptomerias; cultivation similar to that of conifers. Hardy in the South and in California. Introduced from Formosa in 1917.

TAXUS CHINENSIS (Chinese Yew)—Tree or shrub that eventually reaches a height of 45 feet; needles dark green but not closely arranged along the twigs. Introduced from central and western China in 1908.

THALICTRUM DIPTEROCARPUM (Yunnan Meadow-rue)—Perennial, 2 feet; flowers rose colored, nodding. Western China.

THEA CUSPIDATA—*Camellia cuspidata*—Evergreen shrub, up to 6 feet. The flowers are white and 1 ½ inches in diameter. Introduced from China in 1901.

THUJA KORAIENSIS—A rare shrub or small tree up to 30 feet tall from the Diamond Mountains in Korea. Remains dark green throughout the winter. Wilson writes: "It is perfectly hardy and destined to be a favorite plant. In 1917 I secured a quantity of seeds which led to its introduction into cultivation."

TILIA OLIVERI—Linden tree, up to 45 feet, with small flowers. Introduced from central China in 1900.

TSUGA YUNNANENSIS (Yunnan Hemlock)—Hemlock, up to 100 feet tall with a girth of 12 to 15 feet. A good timber tree. Introduced from western China in 1908. Closely related to *Tsuga chinensis*.

ULMUS WILSONIANA—Elm, up to 75 feet. Closely related to *Ulmus japonica*. Introduced from central China in 1910.

VACCINIUM PRAESTANS—Low shrub with white flowers tinted with pink, and bright red lustrous fruit, edible. Introduced from northern Japan in 1914. Fruits have a strawberry-like fragrance.

VIBURNUM DAVIDI—1 ½ to 2 feet high; flat corymbs of pure white flowers; small indigo-blue fruits. Introduced from western China in 1904.

VIBURNUM HENRYI—6 to 10 feet high; flowers pure white and fragrant; fruits bright scarlet changing to blackish crimson. Introduced from central China in 1907. Wilson's comment is "A more highly decorative shrub would be hard to find."

VIBURNUM LOBOPHYLLUM—Shrub, up to 15 feet; flowers in long-stalked cymes to 4 ½ inches across; fruit bright red. Introduced from central and western China in 1901.

VIBURNUM RHYTIDOPHYLLUM (Leatherleaf Viburnum)—Shrub, 5 to 10 feet high; flowers creamy white in corymbs 6 to 10 inches across; fruit first dark red but changing to jet black and retained until late into the winter. Introduced from central and western China in 1900. Wilson writes, "Apart from the beauty of its flowers and fruits the notable and strikingly handsome foliage of this plant is sufficient to award it a place in any and every collection of shrubs."

VIBURNUM THEIFERUM (Tea Viburnum)—Upright shrub, up to 12 feet, bearing ornamental red fruit in the autumn. Wilson discovered it on Mount Omi in western China, and reports that

the natives use the leaves for making a sweet tea peculiar to that section. He calls the fruit very ornamental. Introduced in 1901.

VIBURNUM WILSONI—Shrub with bright red fruit. Introduced from western China in 1908.

VITIS FLEXUOSA PARVIFOLIA—Small growing species, 5 to 6 feet high. An ornamental vine but with a delicate constitution. Introduced from central China in 1900.

VITIS FLEXUOSA WILSONI—See *Ampelopsis micans*.

VITIS LEEOIDES—See *Ampelopsis watsoniana*.

VITIS REPENS—See *Ampelopsis micans*.

VITIS THOMSONI—See *Parthenocissus thomsoni*.

## SOURCES OF SUPPLY

The names of nurseries having plants introduced by Wilson which are for sale at the date of the publication of this book are given below. The author apologizes for omissions, of which there are certain to be many. Refer to the nursery index for the complete names and addresses of these nurseries.

*Acer davidi*—Campbell, Kohankie.

*Aconitum wilsoni*—Common in the trade.

*Actinidia chinensis*—Dreer, Calif. Nur., Coolidge Gardens.

*Anemone hupehensis*—Common in the trade.

*Artemisia lactiflora*—Common in the trade.

*Astilbe davidi*—Bay State, Scheepers, Wayside, Mt. Desert, Bristol, Kohankie.

*Astilbe grandis*—B. & A., Bay State, Walcott, Kohankie.

*Berberis aggregata pratti*—Boulevard, Kohankie, Kelsey, Cape Cod.

*Berberis atrocarpa*—Fruitland.

*Berberis candidula*—Le-Mac.

*Berberis gagnepaini*—Hicks, Coolidge Gardens, Le-Mac, Marshall, Dreer, Princeton, Lex. Gardens, Kohankie, Nearing, Calif. Nur., Pioneer.

*Berberis julianae*—Common in the trade.

*Berberis sargentiana*—Hicks, Fruitland, Kohankie,

- Bay State, Princeton, Coolidge Gardens, Lex.  
Gardens, Le-Mac, Calif. Nur.
- Berberis triacanthophora*—Le-Mac, B. & A., Lex.  
Gardens, Gable, Hicks, Calif. Nur., Princeton,  
Coolidge Gardens, Malmo, Kohankie, Pioneer.
- Berberis verna*—Bay State, Kelsey, Farquhar,  
Princeton, Eastern Nur., Kohankie.
- Berberis verruculosa*—Common in the trade.
- Berberis wilsonae*—Common in the trade.
- Buddleia asiatica*—Farquhar, Crockett, Glen, Calif.  
Nur., Payne, Jungle, Pioneer, Coolidge Gardens.
- Buddleia davidi magnifica*—Common in the trade.
- Buddleia davidi wilsoni*—Farquhar.
- Buxus microphylla koreana*—Kelsey, Eastern Nur.
- Clematis montana rubens*—Bay State, Malmo,  
Eastern Nur., Kohankie, E. & G., Payne.
- Cornus kousa chinensis*—Cottage Gardens, Craig,  
Kohankie, Kelsey, Clarke.
- Corydalis thalictrifolia*—Crissey, Walcott, Cherry  
Meadow, Banghart, E. & G., Borsch.
- Cotoneaster acutifolia villosula*—Bay State, Kelsey,  
Wayside.
- Cotoneaster apiculata*—Le-Mac, Eastern Nur., Kelsey,  
Kohankie, Princeton, Bay State, Clarke, Coolidge  
Gardens.
- Cotoneaster dammeri*—Dreer, Hicks, Walcott,  
Princeton, Nearing, Banghart, Borsch, Oregon  
Gardens, Malmo, Eastern Nur., Kohankie, E. & G.
- Cotoneaster dielsiana*—Common in the trade.
- Cotoneaster divaricata*—Common in the trade.
- Cotoneaster henryana*—Le-Mac, Malmo.



- Cotoneaster horizontalis perpusilla*—Kohankie,  
Princeton, Campbell, G. & C.
- Cotoneaster hupehensis*—Eastern Nur., Kohankie.
- Cotoneaster racemiflora soongarica*—Bay State,  
Eastern Nur., Campbell, Hiti Nur., Kelsey,  
Weston, Kohankie, Cape Cod.
- Cotoneaster salicifolia floccosa*—Le-Mac.
- Cotoneaster salicifolia rugosa*—Malmo, Kohankie,  
Calif. Nur.
- Davidia involucrata*—Princeton, Upper Bank,  
Kohankie, Nearing.
- Deutzia longifolia veitchi*—Princeton.
- Deutzia wilsoni*—Princeton.
- Dipelta floribunda*—Lex. Gardens.
- Evodia hupehensis*—Hicks, Upper Bank.
- Forsythia ovata*—Kelsey, Kohankie, Princeton,  
Campbell.
- Indigofera amblyantha*—Upper Bank.
- Ilex pernyi*—Albert.
- Iris wilsoni*—Wayman, Banghart, Lex. Gardens,  
Upper Bank, White & Johnson, Gottschall, Craig
- Jasminum primulinum*—Common in the trade.
- Juglans cathayensis*—Jones.
- Juniperus conferta*—Hicks, Marshall, Eastern Nur.  
Kohankie, Kelsey, Clarke, Coolidge Gardens,  
Cape Cod, Pioneer.
- Kolkwitzia amabilis*—Common in the trade.
- Ligularia clivorum*—Common in the trade.
- Ligularia veitchiana*—Bay State, Wayside, Mt. Desert  
Kohankie.
- Ligularia wilsoniana*—Bay State, Mt. Desert,  
Hammonasset.

- Ligustrum henryi*—Calif. Nur., Coolidge Gardens,  
Pioneer.
- Lilium davidi*—Craig, Marshall, Scheepers, Lily  
Gardens
- Lilium henryi*—Common in the trade.
- Lilium philippinense formosanum*—Wayside,  
Marshall, Lily Gardens, Ainsley, Scheepers, Craig,  
Powell, E. & G., Borsch.
- Lilium regale*—Common in the trade.
- Lilium sargentiae*—Common in the trade.
- Lilium willmottiae*—B. & A., Scheepers, Wayside,  
Horsford, Craig, Marshall, Lily Gardens, Ainsley,  
Kohankie, Aiken, Sheffield.
- Liriodendron chinense*—Kohankie.
- Lonicera henryi*—Dreer, Eastern Nur., Kohankie,  
Hicks, Pilkington.
- Lonicera maacki podocarpa*—Bay State, Kelsey,  
Farquhar, Princeton, Kohankie, E. & G., Cape  
Cod, G. & C.
- Lonicera nitida*—Common in the trade.
- Lonicera pileata*—Common in the trade.
- Lonicera tragophylla*—Campbell.
- Malus theifera*—Bay State, Eastern Nur., Kohankie,  
Wohlert, Kelsey, Princeton, Fraser, Weston,  
J. & P., Craig, Aiken.
- Malus toringoides*—Kelsey, Eastern Nur., Bristol,  
Bay State, Weston, J. & P., Kohankie, Wohlert,  
Fraser.
- Neillia sinensis*—Kohankie.
- Picea asperata*—Kelsey, Farquhar.
- Picea koyamia*—Kelsey.

*Pieris taiwanensis*—Le-Mac.

*Populus lasiocarpa*—Campbell, Griffin.

*Potentilla fruticosa veitchi*—Kelsey, Eastern Nur.,  
Hicks, Campbell, Pilkington.

*Primula chungensis*—Borsch, E. & G.

*Primula cockburniana*—Te-A-Wha, Walcott, E. & G.

*Primula pulverulenta*—Upper Bank, Kohankie, Bay  
State, Te-A-Wha, Wayside, Princeton, Craig,  
Crissey, E. & G., Borsch.

*Primula veitchi*—Hammonassett, Borsch.

*Pyrus calleryana*—Bay State, Kohankie, Calif. Nur.,  
Aiken.

*Rehmannia angulata*—Vaughan (seeds), Pioneer,  
Payne.

*Rhododendron ambiguum*—Nearing.

*Rhododendron concinnum*—Nearing.

*Rhododendron discolor*—Gable, Dexter.

*Rhododendron keiskei*—Nearing.

*Rhododendron lutescens*—Gable, Nearing.

*Rhododendron micranthum*—Nearing, Bay State,  
Kelsey, Farquhar, Hicks, Gable.

*Rhododendron obtusum japonicum*—Florists.

*Rhododendron orbiculare*—Dexter.

*Rhododendron polylepsis*—Nearing.

*Rhododendron williamsianum*—Dexter.

*Rodgersia tabularis*—Mt. Desert.

*Rosa bella*—B. & A., Eastern Nur.

*Rosa helenae*—B. & A., Eastern Nur., Kohankie,  
Campbell.

- Rosa moyesi*—B. & A., Eastern Nur., Princeton,  
Craig, Dreer, Kohankie, E. & G.
- Rosa omeiensis*—B. & A., Eastern Nur., Kohankie.
- Rosa willmottiae*—B. & A., Kohankie.
- Sarcococca humilis*—Hicks, Marshall, Upper Bank.
- Sarcococca ruscifolia*—Coolidge Gardens.
- Sorbaria arborea*—Campbell, Upper Bank, Kohankie,  
Kelsey.
- Spiraea henryi*—Farquhar, Princeton, J. & P.,  
Kohankie, Bay State, Kelsey.
- Spiraea sargentiana*—Kelsey, Campbell.
- Spiraea trichocarpa*—Common in the trade.
- Spiraea veitchi*—Princeton, Kelsey, J. & P., Kohankie.
- Spiraea wilsoni*—Kohankie, Kelsey, Princeton.
- Stranvaesia davidiana undulata*—Coolidge Gardens,  
Princeton, Campbell, Pilkington, Clarke, Upper  
Bank, Le-Mac, Kohankie, Calif. Nur.
- Syringa dilatata*—Weston, Gable, Campbell.
- Syringa julianae*—Cedar Hill, Weston, Kohankie.
- Syringa reflexa*—Hicks, Cedar Hill, Cottage Gardens,  
Campbell, Gable, Princeton.
- Syringa wolffi*—Cherry Hill, Hick's, Cottage Gardens,  
Gable.
- Thalictrum dipterocarpum*—Common in the trade.
- Thuja koraiensis*—Cottage Gardens, Kelsey.
- Viburnum davidi*—Le-Mac.
- Viburnum rhytidophyllum*—Common in the trade.
- Viburnum theiferum*—Cottage Gardens, Campbell,  
J. & P., Le-Mac, Kohankie.

## FOREIGN SOURCES OF WILSON'S INTRODUCTIONS

Hillier & Sons, Winchester, England.

George Reuthe, Keston, Kent, England.

Robert Veitch & Sons, Winchester, England.

T. Smith, Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Ireland.

Vilmorin-Andrieux & Cie, 4 Quai, de la Megisserie,  
Paris, France.

Leon Chenault & Son, Orleans, France.

V. Lemoine & Son, Nancy, France.

Manshu Nosan Shokai, Inc., Dairen, Manchuria,  
(East Asia), China.

The Yokohama Nursery Co., Ltd., Naka-Ku,  
Yokohama, Japan.

## INDEX TO NURSERIES

<i>Ainsley</i>	Gordon Ainsley, Campbell, Calif.
<i>Aiken</i>	The Aiken Nurseries, Putney, Vt.
<i>Albert</i>	✓ Theodore Albert, Centralia, Ill.
<i>Banghart</i>	✧ Mrs. Edith H. Banghart, Medina, Wash.
<i>Bay State</i>	Bay State Nurseries, North Abington, Mass.
<i>B. &amp; A.</i>	Bobbink & Atkins, Rutherford, N. J.
<i>Borsch</i>	✧ Wm. Borsch & Sons, Maplewood, Ore.
<i>Bristol</i>	Bristol Nurseries, Inc., Bristol, Conn.
<i>Boulevard</i>	Boulevard Nurseries, Newport, R. I.
<i>Calif. Nur.</i>	California Nursery Co., Niles, Calif.
<i>Campbell</i>	F. W. Campbell, 1112 Pinehurst St., Route 6, Royal Oak, Mich.
<i>Cape Cod</i>	Cape Cod Nurseries, Falmouth, Mass.
<i>Cedar Hill</i>	Cedar Hill Nursery, Glen Head, Nassau Co., N. Y.

<i>Cherry Meadow</i>	Cherry Meadow Gardens, Framingham Center, Mass.
<i>Clarke</i>	Clarke Nursery Co., Box 343, San Jose, Calif.
<i>Coolidge Gardens</i>	Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, Pasadena, Calif.
<i>Cottage Gardens</i>	Cottage Gardens, Queens Village, L. I., N. Y.
<i>Craig</i>	Wm. N. Craig, Weymouth, Mass.
<i>Crissey</i>	W. L. Crissey, Gresham, Ore.
<i>Crockett</i>	R. M. Crockett & Co., Cranfield, N. J.
<i>Dexter</i>	Charles O. Dexter, Sandwich, Mass.
<i>Dreer</i>	Henry A. Dreer, Philadelphia, Pa.
<i>Eastern Nur.</i>	Eastern Nurseries, Holliston, Mass.
<i>E. &amp; G.</i>	Eddie & Gamwell, Inc. Bellingham, Wash.
<i>Farquhar</i>	R. & J. Farquhar, 6 S. Market St., Boston, Mass.
<i>Fraser</i>	S. Fraser Nursery, Inc., Geneseo, N. Y.
<i>Fruitland</i>	Fruitland Nurseries, Augusta, Ga.
<i>Gable</i>	Joseph B. Gable, Stewartstown, Pa.

<i>Glen</i>	Glen St. Mary Nursery, Glen St. Mary, Fla.
<i>Gottschall</i>	Roy Gottschall, 210 Summer St., Marion, O.
<i>G. &amp; C.</i>	Gray & Cole, Ward Hill, Mass.
<i>Griffin</i>	\ Griffin Nurseries, Beaumont, Texas.
<i>Hammonasset</i>	Hammonasset Gardens, Madison, Conn.
<i>Hicks</i>	Hicks Nurseries, Westbury, L. I., N. Y.
<i>Horsford</i>	F. H. Horsford, Charlotte, Vt.
<i>Hiti Nur.</i>	Hiti Nurseries, Pomfret, Conn.
<i>J. &amp; P.</i>	Jackson & Perkins Co., Newark, N. Y. (Wholesale only).
<i>Jones</i>	J. F. Jones, Lancaster, Pa.
<i>Jungle</i>	Jungle Gardens Nursery, Avery Island, La.
<i>Kelsey</i>	Harlan P. Kelsey, East Boxford, Mass.
<i>Kohankie</i>	H. Kohankie & Son, Painesville, Ohio
<i>Le-Mac</i>	\ Le-Mac Nurseries, Hampton, Va.
<i>Lex. Gardens</i>	Lexington Gardens, Inc., Lexington, Mass.



<i>Lily Gardens</i>	The Lily Gardens, Bellevue, Wash.
<i>Malmo</i>	Malmo & Co., 1900 6th Ave., Seattle, Wash.
<i>Marshall</i>	W. E. Marshall & Co., Inc., 150 West 23rd St., N. Y. C.
<i>Mt. Desert</i>	Mt. Desert Nurseries, Bar Harbor, Me.
<i>Nearing</i>	G. G. Nearing, Guyencourt, Del.
<i>Payne</i>	Theodore Payne, 2969 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.
<i>Pilkington</i>	J. B. Pilkington, 2nd at Salmon St., Portland, Ore.
<i>Pioneer</i>	Pioneer Nursery Co., Monrovia, Calif.
<i>Powell</i>	Edwin C. Powell, 8637 Coleville Road, Silver Spring, Md.
<i>Princeton</i>	Princeton Nurseries, Princeton, N. J.
<i>Scheepers</i>	John Scheepers Inc., 522 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C.
<i>Sheffield</i>	Sheffield Bulb Farm, Burton, Wash.
<i>Te-A-Wha</i>	Te-A-Wha Nurseries, Clackamas, Ore.
<i>Upper Bank</i>	Upper Bank Nurseries, Media, Pa.

<i>Vaughan</i>	Vaughan's Seed Store, 49 Barclay St., N. Y. C.
<i>Walcott</i>	Walcott's Limited, Jackson, Mich.
<i>Wayman</i>	Robert Wayman, Bayside, L. I., N. Y.
<i>Wayside</i>	Wayside Gardens, Mentor, Ohio.
<i>Weston</i>	Weston Nurseries, Weston, Mass.
<i>White &amp; Johnson</i>	White & Johnson, Wakefield, Mass.
<i>Wohlert</i>	A. E. Wohlert, Narberth, Pa.

## CHRONOLOGY

Born at Chipping Campden in Gloucestershire, England, February 15, 1876.

Entered the nurseries of Messrs. Hewitt in Warwickshire after leaving school.

Went to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens in 1892.

Entered the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew in January, 1897.

Entered the Royal College of Science at South Kensington in 1898.

Chosen by James Veitch & Sons to lead an expedition to China in 1899.

Left for China by way of Boston and San Francisco in April, 1899.

Collected in Hupeh during 1900 and 1901.

Returned to England in April, 1902.

Married Helen Ganderton of Edgbaston, Warwickshire, on June 8, 1902.

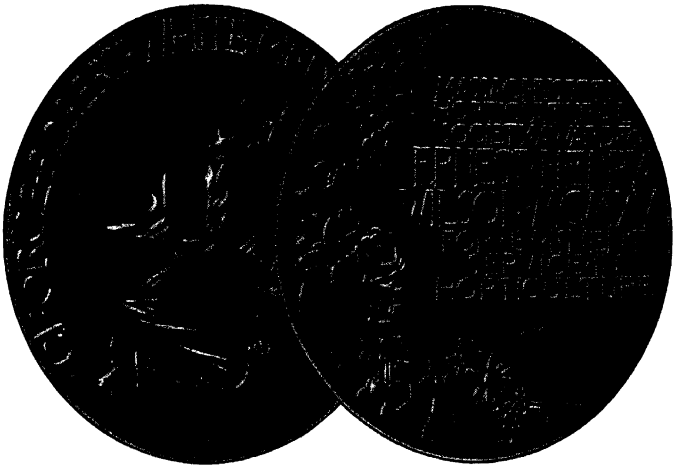
Started his second expedition to China for James Veitch & Sons in January, 1903.

Spent the year 1904 in plant hunting through western Szechuan.

Returned to England in March, 1905.

Awarded the Veitchian medal in 1906.

Accepted a position in 1906 as botanical assistant at the Imperial Institute in London.



*The George Robert White Medal of Honor awarded in 1915*



Birth of Mr. Wilson's daughter, Muriel Primrose Wilson, May 21, 1906.

Engaged by Professor C. S. Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum in 1906 for another expedition to China.

Left Boston for China late in December, 1907.

Spent most of 1907-8 in exploring western Hupeh.

Arrived in England in May, 1909.

Returned to the Arnold Arboretum in September, 1909.

Made a fourth trip to China, again for the Arnold Arboretum, in 1910, by way of the Trans-Siberian railway.

Hit by a landslide in Szechuan in October, 1910, and his leg broken.

Returned to America in March, 1911.

Awarded the Victoria Medal of Honor in 1912.

Published "A Naturalist in Western China" in 1913.

Went to Japan in 1914, spending a year in that island and its vicinity.

Returned to the Arnold Arboretum in January, 1915.

Awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1915.

Given the honorary degree of Master of Arts by Harvard University in 1916.

Published "The Cherries of Japan" in 1916.

Published "The Conifers and Taxads of Japan" in 1916.

Published "Aristocrats of the Garden" in 1917.

Started on his sixth voyage to the Far East in 1917.

Explored the Liukiu and Bonin Islands in February, March and April, 1917.

Traveled through Korea and adjacent islands in the latter part of 1917.

Went to Formosa in January, 1918, collecting *Taiwania cryptomerioides*.

Returned to Japan in April, 1918, to visit the city of Kurume.

Made a second trip to Korea in June, 1918, and to Formosa in October.

Returned to America in March, 1919.

Appointed assistant director of the Arnold Arboretum in 1919.

Published "The Romance of Our Trees" in 1920.

Started on a tour to Australia, New Zealand, India, Tasmania and South Africa in July, 1920, traveling by way of England.

Sailed from Capetown for London in April, 1922, visiting Scotland and France.

Returned to the United States in August, 1922.

Published "America's Greatest Garden" in 1925.

Published "The Lilies of Eastern Asia" in 1925.

Awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1926 for his introductions and his books.

Published a new edition of "Aristocrats of the Garden" in 1926.

Published "Plant Hunting" in two volumes in 1927.

Appointed Keeper of the Arnold Arboretum in 1927.

Awarded the Loder Cup by the Royal Horticultural Society and the Rhododendron Society in 1928.

Published "More Aristocrats of the Garden" in 1928.  
Published "China—Mother of Gardens" in 1929.  
Made a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1929.  
Awarded the Centennial Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1929.  
Given the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by Trinity College in 1930.  
Published "Aristocrats of the Trees" in 1930.  
Killed with his wife in an automobile accident near Worcester, Mass., October 15, 1930.









